### DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 266 870

PS 015 673

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The Employer-Supported Parental Involvement in Education Program (ES/PIE): An Educator's Action

Guide to ES/PIE Program Implementation.

INSTITUTION

Southwest Educational Development Lab., Austin,

Tex.

SPONS AGENCY

National Inst. of Education (ED), Washington, D.C. 30 Nov 85

PUB DATE CONTRACT

400-83-007

NOTE

108p.; Some of the exhibits have small or blurred

print.

PUB TYPE

Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE

MF01/PC05 Plus Postage.

**DESCRIPTORS** 

\*Employed Parents; \*Employers; Guidelines; Outreach

Programs; \*Parent Participation; \*Parent School Relationship; \*Program Implementation; School Business Relationship; \*School Community Programs;

School Role

IDENTIFIERS

\*Employer Supported Parental Involvement in Educ

#### **ABSTRACT**

Described are characteristics of the Employer-Supported Parental Involvement in Education program (ES/PIE), designed to foster collaboration between education agencies and employers. An overview of the program details basic assumptions, core activities, and the roles of school districts and employers. Subsequent content provides a guide to program implementation focusing on how to (1) get the school district committed to implementing the ES/PIE program; (2) identify and recruit employer partners; (3) prepare school staff for outreach; (4) set up an outreach delivery system; and (5) encourage the employer partner to implement change in the workplace. Concluding comments briefly discuss program monitoring and evaluation. Numerous materials related to program implementation are included as exhibits, such as a survey of employee interest, various letters, a sample agenda for lunch hour seminars, and a community resources checklist. (RH)



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# THE EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION PROGRAM (ES/PIE)

An Educator's Action Guide to ES/PIE Program Implementation

Sponsored by the National Institute of Education
November 1985

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# THE EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION PROGRAM (ES/PIE) An Educator's Action Guide to ES/PIE Stagram Implementation

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Sponsored by the National Institute of Education
November 1985





The publication is based on work sponsored wholly or in part by the National Institute of Education, U.S. Department of Education, under contract number 400-83-007, P-3. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the views of NIE, the Department, or any other agency of the U.S. ^~vernment.

November 30, 1985

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## I. PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Parents play an essential role in the education of their children. Research on effective schools has shown that parent and community involvement in support of schools are major ingredients in the formula for effective schools and quality education. On the basis of these findings, an increased emphasis has been placed on encouraging parents to take a more active role in the education of their children, and to increase their contact with teachers and other members of the school staff.

Participation in parent-teacher organizations, volunteering for in-school support efforts, pupil tutoring, library work, chaperoning field trips, and taking part in other activities designed to help schools do their work better, continue to be the most common forms of school support from parents. Parent involvement in these activities is highly valued by teachers and other school officials. They interpret this participation as parental interest and concern for schools and education. When involved sends two messages—one to the children whose parents are their children, it another to those children whose parents are not present. Non participation inevitably comes across to both teachers and children as lack of interest and concern.

Unfortunately, most school activities for parents are scheduled during school hours. Working parents, particularly mothers who work full-time outside the home most of the day, often cannot participate. Faced with the conflicting demands of the workplace, the home, and their children's schools, working parents are often forced to choose between meeting responsibilities as employees or as parents. However, this dilemma can be resolved through effective employer-school efforts that benefit parents, employers, children, and schools.

For more than four years, the Working Parents Project of the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) in Austin, Texas, has conducted research on the interrelationships between work and family life with working parents from the perspective of both two-parent and single-parent families. A particular focus of this research has been on the ability and availability of working parents to be involved in the education of their children.

On the basis of Working Parents Project research and other research, and information about programs or projects underway in the region and nation, the Project has developed and piloted a program designed to assist school districts and employers in working together. A program is defined here as a set of related activities designed for the purpose of producing an effect or a specific result. The goal of the Working Parents Project's program is to foster a form of collaboration between education agencies and employers to avoid some of the dilemmas and relieve the conflicts that working parents experience. It is called the <a href="EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL">EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL</a> INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION (ES/PIE) program. This name can be changed to one



that better fits the needs, concerns, and style of a particular school district or community.

The main components of the ES/PIE program, and the strategies for their implementation, have been designed on the assumption that school districts are interested in developing a completely new program to deal with the issues of involving working parents. However, this may not be the case in all communities. Where schools have already begun partnership efforts—for example, an adopt—a-school program—the guide can also be used to complement or expand existing efforts.

### II. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### A. Program Assumptions

The ES/PIE program was developed on the basis of six fundamental assumptions about parents' interests and motivation, school staff attitudes, and employers' interests and concerns. These underlying assumptions are as follows:

- 1. Most parents, including working parents, are interested in and concerned about the education of their children.
- 2. Most teachers, principals, counselors and other administrators want to encourage the highest level of parent involvement in educational activities at school, at home, and in other community settings.
- 3. The involvement of parents in the education of their children is a positive force that fosters appropriate behavior in school, greater academic achievement, and better communication as well as cooperation between home and school.
- 4. Most employers, whether in the private or public sector, are willing to consider the involvement of their employees in their children's education as a legitimate concern that can be addressed in the workplace.
- 5. The ES/PIE program is a non binding collaborative effort, based on good faith and the mutual interests and goals shared by the school district, the employer, and parents.
- 6. Many school districts are already engaged in some of the activities that will be described. The ES/PIE program can be helpful to these schools, because there are administrative as well as public relations advantages in consolidating such collaborations and to institutionalizing them in the form of a program, with a special name, clearly identified leaders, and allocated resources.

## B. Main Program Activities

The ES/PIE program consists of a set of activities and practices designed to help working parents become more involved in the education of their children. The program's main activities are:

- A series of outreach services delivered by a school district to working parents in the workplace. These services would provide parents with skills and information to effect participation in the education of their children and make informed decisions about their children's educational future.
- 2. Utilization of workplace communication channels by the school district in order to deliver information about school events and educational issues to employees.

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3. Adoption, by employers, of more flexible policies and leave mechanisms that would allow working parents greater flexibility to attend school events scheduled during work hours that are important to them, their children, their children's teachers, and the school.

The ES/PIE program requires school districts and employers to work as partners in a two-way collaborative effort. The school district is responsible for initiating the program by approaching employers in its service area and inviting their participation. After the school district and the employer become acquainted, both partners assume active and clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the operation, success, and continuity of the program. However, it is working parents who will contribute the most time and effort.

### C. School and Employer Roles

### 1. Role of the school district

The role of the school district in the ES/PIE program is to initiate and actively participate in a collaborative effort that promotes and facilitates the involvement of working parents in the education of their children. With ES/PIE, the school district provides timely informational outreach services directed to parents in their workplaces.

The ES/PIE program requires a concerted effort from the school district to provide information to the employer partner about regularly scheduled activities and events that may be of interest to parents. In addition to information, the outreach services can be expanded to provide some limited skills, materials, and guidance to help parents assist their school-age children with their school homework, assignments, and other educational activities. The program also requires an increased awareness by school personnel of the limitations of parents who work full-time during the day, or who have non standard hours, such as evening, night, or other irregular work schedules.

The capacity of the school district to provide community outreach activities may need to be developed. However, these community activities need to become a regular function which targets parents, private-sector employers, public-sector employers, and community agencies. In many districts, approval for the ES/PIE program may have to be secured from the school district's board of trustees. This internal approval process may be time-consuming. However, if granted, approval generally results in the needed support and resource allocation for successful implementation of the program. The governing boards of some school districts may already have policies designed to increase support from the community. For these school districts, the ES/PIE program can be implemented more quickly.

Publicity about ES/PIE can help generate community wide support for school district and increase the likelihood that the general public-as taxpayers-will be willing to bear the cost of education. To begin implementation of the ES/PIE program, the school district needs to designate a person and/or office to act as liaison with the employer partner.



## 2. Role of the employer

The role of the employer partner in ES/PIE is to help promote and facilitate the involvement of its employees in their children's education. The employer partner can implement some or all of several alternative measures suitable for adaptation to meet its own particular conditions or restraints, as well as the special needs and interests of its employees.

The employer partner can provide the school partner with space on its bulletin boards or internal newsletters to publicize school events and activities of interest to its employees. The employer partner can also provide the space and the opportunity for the school district partner to deliver, in the workplace, seminars or workshops on topics of interest to its employees. In addition, the employer partner, as part of ES/PIE, can encourage its employees to make use of available leave mechanisms to attend school functions or other activities which meet the educational needs of their children. Or, it can offer special leave provisions to be used by employees exclusively for school-related purposes. Under the ES/PIE program, the employer partner can accomplish a transfer of energy to the educational enterprise. Most of that energy will be provided by parents themselves who have primary interest in the educational success of their children. The employer should provide the initial push which helps remove barriers that could inhibit the natural interest working parents have in providing their children with maximum educational opportunities.

The enhanced sense of well-being the employees experience will benefit the employer partner, as will the loyalty of employees to an employer who is willing to consider their special needs. The employer partner should view the time and resources spent on this program as both a sound strategy to increase morale and reduce turnover, a short-term goal, as well as to help schools produce better educated workers and consumers, a long-term investment.

To begin work on the collaborative activities, the employer partner should designate a person or office to act as liaison with the school district partner.



## III. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

Implementing the ES/PIE program consists of a series of interactions between the school district liaison and one or more employer partners. For the sake of brevity, the singular--partner--will be used, although a school district may try to recruit and work with more than one partner at the same time. At each step, the school district's actions will be designed to elicit reactions on the part of the employer partner. In turn, these reactions will require the school partner to take some follow-up action. Certain decisions along the way will be required of the school district partner. Others may be joint decisions between both partners, and still others will be made solely by the employer partner. These decisions will be followed by one or more related actions.

### A. Assumptions

The program implementation guide was developed with nine basic assumptions in mind. They refer to where the program implementation initiative resides, the necessary level of support for the program, and the relative size of the district and its community. The assumptions are as follows:

- 1. The initiative to implement the ES/PIE program most likely will come from the school district partner, or from a third party, such as a professional educator, a parent, or a community organization.
- 2. The initiative to implement the ES/PIE program in a school district does not have to come from its highest authority, such as the district superintendent. It could come from a teacher, counselor, principal, other school official, or third parties previously mentioned.
- 3. Efforts to implement the ES/PIE program should be at least endorsed, if not actively promoted, by the school district's higher level authorities.
- 4. The ES/PIE program implementation can proceed by phases or stages over time, and these can include one, some, or all of the activities recommended for either partner.
- 5. The ES/PIE program can involve one or more employer partners or even more than one school or school district in an area.
- 6. The ES/PIE program is not restricted to large districts or cities with large employers as many of the activities can be carried out in small communities as well.
- 7. The ES/PIE program implementation guide can be used without any direct or indirect support from its developers (SEDL).



- 8. This ES/PIE program implementation guide will be in a form that allows for easy printing or reproduction provided that prior approval is obtained from SEDL.
- The primary user of this guide will be the liaison person or office of the school district partner.



## B. Program Implementation Activities

The ES/PIE program implementation guide consists of five sections with specific activities, steps, outcomes, resources, and references to sample materials. The sections and activities are as follows:

- 1. HOW TO GET THE SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING ES/PIE
  - 1.1 Achieving Consensus and Attaining Approval for ES/PIE
  - 1.2 Publicizing the ES/PIE Program within the District and to the Community
- 2. HOW TO IDENTIFY AND RECRUIT EMPLOYER PARTNERS
  - 2.1 Identifying Potential Partners
  - 2.2 Getting Additional Partners for ES/PIE
- 3. HOW TO PREPARE SCHOOL STAFF FOR OUTREACH
  - 3.1 Assessing Needs and Interests in the Workplace
  - 3.2 Using the Partner's Internal Communication Channels
  - 3.3 Preparing for Workplace Seminars and Workshops
- 4. HOW TO SET UP AN OUTREACH DELIVERY SYSTEM
  - 4.1 Managing the Outreach Team and Resources
  - 4.2 Getting the Employer Partner Ready for Outreach Visit
  - 4.3 Reporting ES/PIE Activities to the Decision-Makers
- 5. HOW TO ENCOURAGE THE EMPLOYER PARTNERS TO IMPLEMENT CHANGE IN THE WORKPLACE
  - 5.1 Opening up New Channels of Communication with Working Parents
  - 5.2 Helping Employer Partner to Encourage Working Parents Communicate with Each Other
  - 5.3 Helping Employer Partner to Examine Leave Policies and Practices
  - 5.4 Encouraging Employer Partner to Adjust Leave Policies to Promote and Facilitate Parental Involvement in Education

Each section contains a description of activities, expected outcomes, products, or results, some exemplary notes, and where feasible, reference to samples of appropriate materials included as Exhibits.

Some exhibits can be reproduced as presented. Others have been reduced to save space. Others can be easily modified by placing the school district name, the partner's name, and the city in the appropriate places.



## 1. How To Get the School District Committed to Implementing ES/PIE

The first step, after becoming familiar with the ES/PIE program goals and assumptions, and concluding that the program is appropriate for the school district and the community, is to convince colleagues and superiors of the need to support efforts to get such a program underway.

### **ACTIVITIES**

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

1.1 Achieving consensus and attaining approval from the school district to implement the ES/PIE program.

It is necessary to determine that school district personnel feel that there is a need to improve communication with working parents and that the ES/PIE program could meet those needs.

- a. Discuss the ES/PIE program with school staff and colleagues to determine whether there is a consensus that the school district needs to improve communication with working parents and to increase the level of their involvement.
- b. Explain to staff and colleagues how ES/PIE can help address those needs until a consensus has been achieved that ES/PIE is a viable program for the school district.
- c. Prepare a brief proposal which summarizes ES/PIE to the appropriate persons, if necessary, to seek the designation of a general coordinator and liaison; and to secure the necessary resources, like time and assistance from other school district personnel.
- d. Review policies and practices of the school district concerning work away from campuses and offices during regular hours or in the evening. Verify that they will allow designated staff to perform the outreach tasks as needed, and their work to be compensated for according to policy.

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- Validation of need for and feasibility of implementing ES/PIE in the school district and community. (See Exhibit 1.1a.)
- Consensus about need for ES/PIE program.
- Written internal proposal for implementing ES/PIE. (See Exhibit 1.1c)
- Liaison/coordinator appointed and team backup designated.
- Resources allocated.
- Identification of appropriate procedures for compensatory time agreements and time away from campus.



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- e. Identify the main units within and outside the school district that can be used as resources for information, materials, or speakers if needed. (See Exhibit 1.1e and Section VI., Resources.)
- f. Identify existing communication mediums used by the school district, like newsletters, bulletins, and contacts with local radio, TV, and newspaper reporters.
- 1.2 Publicizing the ES/PIE program within the school district and in the community at large.

An important key to the success of a new program is creating awareness of and support for those who spend the extra effort to make the partnership program work.

- a. Establish methods for recognizing school district team participation in ES/PIE activities and acknowledging contributions to the program.
- b. Use internal mediums--newsletters, memoranda, and bulletin boards--to tell the school district staff about the ES/PIE program and ways they can contribute to its success.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- Directory of resources, identifying their location and availability.
- List of mediums, contact persons, deadlines, and format.

- Acknowledgment in personnel file and performance appraisal.
- Greater awareness of ES/PIE within district.
- Support from other district staff for ES/PIE activities.
- Additional resources.

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## 2. How To Identify and Recruit Employer Partners

In order to select from among the many employers that may operate in the area, some criteria needs to be developed to choose who to approach first. This decision is very important because once one employer has agreed to participate, it is easier to approach others to follow the lead.

### **ACTIVITIES**

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

# 2.1 Identifying potential partners to invite to participate in the ES/PIE program.

There cannot be a partnership without a partner. After identifying the school district team and identifying or developing appropriate materials, the process to identify and recruit partners begins.

- a. Gather information about the largest employers in the area. Get size of work force, male-female percentages, work schedules. A likely source for this information is the local Cnamber of Commerce.
- b. Ask colleagues and other professionals in human services and other community leaders what they know about these workplaces. Assess the reputation of these workplaces as employers, and their past support for other educational activities.
- c. Rank the workplaces from those being potentially most promising to those least likely to participate according to the information available.
- d. Find the names of the managers in charge of human resources at one of the more promising workplaces. This manager's title may be personnel director, human resources manager, training manager, or employee relations manager.

NOTE: Some companies also have employee assistance programs, wellness programs, or activities

- List of companies and employers with information about their employees.
- Assessments of reputation of employers.
- Ranking of employers from best potential prospects to those potentially least likely to participate.
- Name(s) and ticle(s) of managers to contact.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

for employees and their families. The manager of such programs or activities also may be an appropriate contact.

- e. Ask friends and/or colleagues for knowledge about the selected contact. Telephone the contact person asking for an appointment to discuss the ES/PIE program. Introduce self with reference to name of mutual acquaintance who indicated that contact might be the right person to talk with. State that contact person will be sent a written description of the basic ES/PIE program concept to read in preparation for planned meeting.
- Appointment for visit made using name of mutual acquaintance.

- f. Send the letter and appropriate enclosures as soon as possible. (See sample letter and sample ES/PIE description, Exhibits 2.1f.)
- g. If the first person visited doer not have the final authority to zet upon the school district's proposal, use the meeting to get information about the prospective partner's internal organization, operations, work force, shifts, and availability and location of meeting rooms and cafeterias. This information will be useful in meetings with the decision-maker in that business or organization.
- h. Meet with the appropriate person or committee and explain the rationale for the district's interest in implementing ES/PIE. Explain the program emphasizing the district's commitment to provide the outreach with its own staff as part of their work. Use any local data or anecdotes that you may have to support the schools' need to reach out to working parents where they

- Letter with ES/PIE enclosures, such as 2.1fa,b,c,d.
- Written observations about place and information gathered—a short memo for the files.
- Name obtained of the person with the authority to approve the proposed project.
- Prospective partner now knows what the school district offers and what it asks from the partner.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

can be found—in the workplace.

NOTE: It is likely that no firm response may be obtained right then and there.

- i. Follow up the meeting with a letter restating what the school district asks and what it offers to the partner. (See Exhibit 2.1i.)
- j. Allow reasonable length of time for prospective employer partner to consider school district request.

  NOTE: Decisions are made differently in each organization. Sometimes decisions are made by one person, but frequently they are made by a committee, a task force, or a board whose members need time to meet and consider their involvement.
- k. Follow up letter, after a reasonable period of time has elapsed, with a telephone call to the contact person to ask about the status of the proposal.
- Most businesses and agencies will state what they have agreed to in a letter. Secure such a letter from partner indicating specific dates and/or events, identifying the contact person or office, and describing the way the partners will decide on future activities.

## 2.2 Getting additional partners for the ES/PIE program.

After obtaining the initial commitment to participate from the first partner, begin work to get additional partners.

- a. Ask employer partner's liaison to suggest names of colleagues in other companies that may become prospective partners.
- b. Using the first partner as reference, repeat steps in 2.1.

- Letter summarizing school district's proposal.
- Waiting period allowed.

- Information from contact person about status of things.
- Letter of agreement secured that includes name and title of contact or liaison person and tentative plan with timeline.

- Contacts.
- Referrals.

## 3. How to prepare the school staff for outreach.

At the beginning of the partnership the partners will learn about the needs and resources each brings into the relationship. Sometimes employers may have had neither the opportunity nor the need to collect information about their employees' needs and interests. If that is the case, the school district can assist the employer partner in this process. One way to get a wider range of opinions and perspectives, and to determine needs and procedures to obtain information, is to arrange to have a small group of employees, representing various departments and levels, to be the support committee to the employer liaison.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

## 3.1 Assessing needs and interests in the workplace.

Short surveys are a fast and economical way to obtain information about relative interest for various topics, as well as willingness of employees to participate in possible ES/PIE program activities.

- a. To deal with partner uncertainty about employees' needs and interests, provide the format for a survey the partner can conduct using its own procedures and channels.

  NOTE: Sometimes a business may prefer that the school district conduct the survey, to avoid the appearance of invading employees' privacy.
- Survey format.

- b. Discuss with employer partner the purposes of survey. Suggest to employer partner to consider which sections of survey format, presented as Exhibit 3.1b, are needed. The sections are:
  - information about numbers or proportions of children of employees in the various grade levels.
  - relative interest of employees in a set of proposed seminar topics, and
  - 3) employees' willingness to attend the seminars under various scheduling arrangements.

- Selection of survey sections to be used.
- Frequency counts.
- Ratings of interest.
- Ratings of preference.



NOTE: Depending on the size of the work force, a smaller sample could be selected from the total work force.

c. Suggest to the employer liaison to examine surveys, tally responses, and analyze data collected as a joint activity. Decisions can then be made about most popular topic, the best time to schedule the activity, and possible groups of employees by their children's grade levels.

NOTE: A sample of a survey analysis and report is included as Exhibit 3.1c.

3.2 <u>Using the partner's internal</u> communication channels to deliver educational information.

There are basic steps involved in preparing materials for use with the employer partner's internal communication mediums to communicate with its working parents.

- a. Select a set of facts or concepts to be communicated; talk with colleagues and school administrators; preview official documents, newspaper clippings, and other sources to obtain information, advice, and concepts educators think parents, including working parents, should have.
- b. Find brochures, flyers, or pamphlets that the school district may already have produced or acquired which are available for use.
- c. If unable to find suitable printed material, write a rough draft of a set of short information pieces. Then have several colleagues review them for content and clarity.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- Decisions about topics.
- · Decisions about scheduling.
- Decisions about groupings.

 List of messages to send to working parents.

- List of available printed resources.
- Drafts.
- Revisions.



- d. Rank the materials prepared and/or available in terms of importance and priority to the school district.
- e. Determine, from employer liaison person, what mediums are available and what restrictions each has for space, deadlines, and so forth.

  NOTE: Possible mediums include regular internal newsletters, space on regular bulletin boards or on an "Education News" bulletin board, internal memorandums, and notices placed in employees pay envelopes.
- e. Produce or reproduce the appropriate materials and submit them to the employer liaison for appropriate action (e.g., printing, editing, stuffing, posting, and/or distribution).
- f. Ask for a copy of the product--newsletter, flyer, memorandum, etc.--for the school district's file.
- 3.3 <u>Preparing for workplace seminars and workshops.</u>

A seminar or workshop conducted in the workplace by an outside expert is a popular and effective way to deliver information, knowledge, and skills. Such meetings usually take place during the lunch period, and are often held in cafeterias, meeting rooms, or training facilities.

a. Consult with the liaison to choose one or more topics to be developed in the form of a lunch-hour seminar or workshop.

NOTE: These should be topics that the school district partner wants working parents to be informed about and the employer partner's liaison is reasonably certain parents in the workplace will

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- lanking of priority of messages.
- List of employer mediums available for communicating messages to employers.

- submission of message to employer liaison.
- Distribution of material(s) to employees.
- File of samples from materials used by employer partner. (See Exhibit 3.2f.)

• List of topics for seminars.



RESULT, OUTCUME, OR PRODUCT

attend. Along with ongoing topics of interest to parents, examine current issues under discussion by the school district and community, particularly those that would involve major changes, such as curriculum, school boundaries, etc. (See Exhibit 3.3a.)

- b. Identify at least two people in the school district who have topic knowledge or information that needs to be developed and presented.
- c. Ascertain the potential school district staff interest and willingness to work in this program.

  NOTE: A school administrator may need to release such staff for short times from their regular duties to work with the ES/PIE program.
- d. Schedule a work session with the presenters to structure the presentation and develop an outline of major points to be covered.
- Prepare or select appropriate handouts for participants to reinforce presentation topics.
- f. Rehearse the presentation so that it fits into the time frame that has been agreed upon and allotted by the liaison. (See Exhibit 3.3f for a sample agenda with suggested time allocations, and Tips for Presenters, 3.3f,a.)
- g. Once the presentation date and time are set, make sure that the presenter or presenters have cleared participation with their own supervisors, and that transportation arrangements have been made, so that all persons involved will arrive at the workplace together, with all the materials that they need.

NOTE: If the topic requested

- Names, titles of potential presenters.
- Commitments to participate from presenters.
- Commitments to authorize participation from their supervisors.
- Outline for presentation.
- Handouts prepared. (See Exhibits 3.3a,b,c,d,e,f.)
- Time allocations made.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

requires expertise not available within the school district, several alternative potential resources are suggested in Exhibit 1.1e.)



## 4. How To Set Up An Outreach Delivery System

The delivery of outreach services to parents in the workplace requires that the school district set up a group of staff with a special mission, under the leadership and coordination of the district's liaison. It is important that this team be well managed, that available resources be identified or if necessary developed, and that activities be recorded, monitored, and reported to the proper authorities. The activities that follow are designed to meet those purposes.

### ACTIVITIES

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

## 4.1 Managing the outreach team and resources.

A team has been assembled and trained to perform specific tasks on an irregular basis. Since these tasks are not part of team members' normal daily activities and are not under the control of their regular supervisors, set up a system to schedule their ES/PIE work, to obtain release of their time, to give them credit for their special work, and to evaluate their performance for their personnel files.

- a. For each topic prepared, have at least two people trained and ready to deliver presentations. Distribute the presentations evenly among them.
- Schedule of presenters.
- b. For each topic, have a supply of materials and handouts ready. Place them in a box at a central location where presenters can pick them up before going to the seminar.
- Materials and supplies.
- c. Keep a log of all activities relating to ES/PIE for school district's purposes. This log can be a valuable tool for estimating the effort involved in each activity and for evaluating them.
- Log of activities.
- d. Set up file folder for each employer partner in order to keep all materials and correspondence relating to ES/PIE efforts with that partner in one place.
- Folder for each employer partner.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

4.2 Getting the employer partner ready for outreach visit.

The following activities may be carried out to make sure that the employer partner is ready for the outreach activity, and that adequate arrangements for time, space, and publicity have been made in advance of the visit.

a. Visit the seminar setting. Study the layout, seating arrangements, and ask about making any changes needed to increase the intimacy and casualness of the setting.

NOTE: Sometimes—for example, when businesses share the same building or are in close proximity, as in industrial parks—a partner may sponsor the seminar and open it to employees of other businesses.

Visit to seminar or event site.

- b. Ascertain the extent and form of publicity being used to promote participation in the seminar. Ask if the partner has access to a media production department, or to a computer with graphics capabilities. Encourage the use of these facilities to make the flyer or announcement as attractive as possible. (See Exhibit 4.2b for samples.)
- Copies of publicity pieces used.
- Flyers.
- Announcements.
- Memoranda.

- c. Determine meal arrangements needed for presenters and participants. Tell the presenters whether participants will be eating lunch during seminar.
- Meal arrangements.
- d. Find out how accessible the seminar facility is to the employees, where presenters will park, and if plant access badges are needed for presenters.
- Parking and access to site.

- e. Provide the employer's liaison with necessary information for introducing the presenter, including name, title, and a brief description of the kind of work the school district presenter does.
- f. Suggest an agenda according to the guidelines and format given in Exhibit 3.3f.
- g. Find out how much time has been allocated for the seminar.

  NOTE: Remember that participants may need some time to get to the location, time to get their lunches, if provided, and time to get back to their work stations.
- h. Allocate the available time for introductions, presentations, audience participation, and evaluation. (See Exhibit 4.2h for a sample agenda.)
- Tell the presenter exactly how much time is available so that he or she can adjust the presentation accordingly.
- j. Suggest that the employer liaison or someone on employer's team serve as a timekeeper to ensure that time limitations are observed.
- 4.3 Reporting ES/PIE activities to the decision-makers.

An important part of the school liaison's work is keeping immediate superiors informed about the progress of ES/PIE program implementation activities.

a. Submit to the appropriate school district administrator a regular (monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly) progress report of the ES/PIE RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- Short biography of presenters for employer liaison.
- Workshop/seminar agenda.
- Allocation of time for participants.
- S Allocation of time for agenda.
- Fine tuning of presentation.
- Timekeeper appointed.

a Progress report.



RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

program which includes a summary of activities, number of people reached, materials distributed, time allocated to each activity, other resources expended, and samples of newspaper clippings, partner's newsletters, or other correspondence relating to the progress and success of the ES/PIE program.

- b. Include in the report an account of the contributions made by the employer partner, both in terms of partner's time, or the partner's employees' time, as well as an account of in-kind contributions (e.g., printing or copying, meeting space, promotional materials, food or lunch for the presenters).

  NOTE: It is important to show school administrators how the school district benefits from the partnership.
- List of employer partner's contributions.

- c. Where school district policies permit, provide a copy of the report to the partner's liaison.

  NOTE: Remember that the partner is also continually evaluating and reevaluating its participation, and it is important to show them the extent of the school district's contribution to the success of the partnership program.
- Report shared with employer liaison.

- d. Use the presentation of the report as an opportunity to invite the partner's liaison and other members of their staff for a lunch and visit with school district's team members in one of the school district's cafeterias.
  - Mutual understanding.

• Team spirit.

• Information exchanged.

NOTE: Personal contacts and visits to each other's workplaces build a sense of team feeling and joint ownership of the ES/PIE collaborative effort.



e. Help your employer partner get public recognition for its participation in ES/PIE. After making sure that they do want your help with publicity, use the school district's contacts with local media to get the story reported. Workplace seminars may interest the local paper's lifestyle or community editor because of the education and working-parents, working-mothers angle. The business editor may be interested in the changing nature of the work force, and the adjustments that employers are making to workers' needs.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- News releases issued before events to local media.
- News releases issued after events to local media.

## 5. How To Encourage the Employer Partners to Implement Change in the Workplace

The activities presented in this section are probably the most sens 'e part of the ES/PIE program because they involve the school district partner asking the employer partner to examine its internal policies and practices, and take measures to promote certain changes to benefit working parents.

This apparent intrusion on the part of the school district into the employer's internal affairs must come after sufficient trust has developed between the partners. It requires the school district partner to show that its own internal policies and practices have adjusted to provide opportunities for meaningful parent participation in the schools

There is no substitute for the best understanding possible by the school district liaison of the limitations and constraints of the employer partner. Therefore, the school district liaison's role is to encourage and assist the employer partner to do its own self-examination and make its own decisions.

### ACTIVITIES

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

## 5.1 Opening up new channels of communication with working parents.

- a. Discuss with the partner's liaison ways to gain access to the workplace internal communication channels for use in providing working parents with additional educational information.
- b. Supply the partner's liaison with school calendars to be made available to employees in the workplace and posted on bulletin boards.

NOTE: Most school districts provide parents with school calendars. Some are posted on the refrigerator door; many others are simply lost or misplaced. Working parents, always under pressure to organize their time and activities, could benefit from having an extra copy in their work areas, where feasible. (See Exhibits 5.b,a,b,c for sample calendar formats.)

- Identification of partner's internal media.
- Supply of calendars.
- Calendars posted on bulletin boards.



- c. Request information from the employer partner's liaison about copy deadlines, required format, use of graphics, etc., to prepare news briefs to be submitted for publication in the appropriate form.
- d. Provide the employer liaison with timely reminders of fixed-date, district-wide events that can be published in the partner's internal media.

NOTE: Suitable information for these mediums include dates for mandatory parent-teacher conferences, staff development days, and state and local testing.

e. Provide the employer liaison with short, timely pieces with tips to help parents prepare themselves or their children for special events, such as testing, parent-teacher conferences, etc.

NOTE: Parents could be reminded to make whatever advance arrangements are needed, such as transportation, alternative care, or request for leave time.

## 5.2 Helping working parents communicate with each other.

Working parents, especially single parents, report that co-workers are second only to the immediate family as sources of advice and help with the education and care of their children. Work takes more than half of working parents' available time each day, and the workplace is the setting where working parents are most likely to find other parents with similar needs and concerns.

a. Use the liaison's support committee suggested in section 3.1 to help the employer liaison follow up seminars and workshops by encouraging the

## RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

- Deadlines, format, and other requirements.
- News briefs for posting.
- News briefs for publication.

• Tips to help parents prepare for events.

o Follow up on seminars.



RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

formation of small, informal support groups, made up of parents having similar interests and needs.

b. Encourage the employer liaison to assist in the formation and continuation of groups of employees who share common interests. These Special Interest Groups (SIGs) could be formed by inviting parents to meet during their lunch hour on specific days in a pre-designated place.

NOTE: The types of SIGs that could emerge include those of parents with children in elementary, middle, and high school. Another type is that of parents with children who attend the same school, parents who live in the same neighborhood, single parents, etc.

- c. School district liaison should encourage the partner's liaison to facilitate the formation of SIGs. The development of each SIG should be left up to the interests and identified needs of its members.
- d. School district liaison should provide education-related information and assistance that SIGs identify and communicate to their liaison with the school district. NOTE: Some needs that could be identified by a SIG may be outside the school district's area of competence. However, there may be other community organizations and agencies capable of providing needed information or services to those parents. The school district liaison can assist the employer partner's liaison in locating these services. A growing number of large

• Formation of one or more SIGs.

Assistance if needed.

 Specialized information, training or skills.

corporations and businesses provide their employees with Information and Referral Services to the existing community resources. Also, an increasing number of employers have established Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs). In recent years, some EAPs have expanded their services beyond substance abuse. to provide other forms of counseling and training, such as stress management, home financial management, and marital counseling. (See Exhibits 5.2d,a,b,c.)

Many employers have also begun to provide wellness programs that include physical as well as mental health activities.

## 5.3 Examining leave policies and practices of the workplace.

A principal barrier to greater involvement in the education of their children as reported by working parents during interviews with the authors of ES/PIE was the real or perceived resistance on the part of their supervisors to grant leave for school involvement purposes.

Access to the partner's internal communication mediums, the workplace seminars, and the formation of SIGs all represent a response of concern on the part of the employer partner to its employees and their children. The activities that follow can contribute to strengthening the collaborative efforts on behalf of working parents and their children, which is the goal of ES/PIE.

- a. Suggest to the employer liaison that the ES/PIE committee, including representatives of SIGs, if any, examine the leave policies and practices as currently applied.
- Examination of leave policies.



- RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT
- b. Precede or follow that examination with information-gathering activities designed to determine if parants have experienced difficulties in securing time releases to attend to the school needs of their children.
- Information gathered.
- c. Conduct a short survey among various groups or levels of employees about leave policy issues.

NOTE: However, managers are often reluctant to conduct surveys because they tend to create false expectations, and there is a potential for creating negative feelings between supervisors and subordinates.

• Survey of practices and perceptions.

- d. Obtain insight (rather than quantitative information) into the issue of leave policies by using SIGs as focus groups to examine the problems experienced with leave requests by members and other employees that they may know about.
- Focus groups examine leave . experiences of parents.
- e. Assist the employer liaison and its support committee to examine the information gathered from employees through surveys or focus groups, and the policies and practices as described by the employer's manual in order to determine whether any action is needed, and to prioritize among the alternatives suggestions described in the next section.
- Summative information about policies and practices for leave requests and employees' perceptions of those policies and practices.
- 5.4 Encouraging the employer partner to adjust leave policies to promote and facilitate parental involvement in education.
- Suggestions for changes.

Depending on the characteristics of the workplace, its organization, work schedules, and nature of its work force, one or more of the alternative

actions that follow may be advisable. The best guide as to what might be needed is the information and recommendations developed by the ES/PIE committee as suggested in the previous section.

- a. Request that top management encourage line managers and supervisors to grant, whenever possible requests for school involvement purposes, if the employer already provides adequate short-term leave policies.
- b. If the smallest length of leave allowed is a full day, ask management to consider modifying that policy to allow for leaves shorter than a day, at the discretion of supervisors, provided that leave is requested in advance, and the absence of the employee does not cause undue hardships to other employees or interfere with the productive process.
- c. If no adequate means exist for employees to to request time away from work to attend to the educational needs of their children, suggest that the ES/PIE committee request that a new policy for school involvement be considered by management. It could allow a fixed number of hours each calendar year for parents to use to attend parent-teacher conferences, meetings with counselors, and other special school events.
- d. If the school district mandates parent-teacher conferences to be held on a set date, have ES/PIE committee ask management for a special parent-teacher conference leave to be used only for those days, and scheduled within each unit so that all parents are not absent

- Memo encouraging flexibility from top management to supervisory personnel. (See Exhibit 5.4a.)
- Consideration of alternative leave policy.

 Consideration of school involvement leave.

 Request for special event leave.

RESULT, OUTCOME, OR PRODUCT

from work at the time time. (For an example of a general appeal to employers, see Exhibit 5.4d.)



### IV. PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION

To best determine how well the ES/PIE Program is developed, implemented and accomplishes its goals, two kinds of activities should be used. These are program monitoring and program evaluation. Each has a slightly different approach and purpose. They can be conducted by the school district liaison or its designee. This section discusses the monitoring as well as the evaluation efforts for an ES/PIE program.

The purpose of this section is to provide the school district liaison with suggestions about monitoring and evaluation, strategies for carrying out these suggestions and indications of what will be the results, outcomes or products from using the strategies. School districts, either through their liaison person or a person(s) assigned to do the monitoring/evaluation effort can use this section as a guide to assessing ES/PIE. The extent to which such efforts are undertaken in school districts will be determined locally.

The monitoring effort focuses mainly on short-term implementation issues and requires day-to-day assessment of activities and accomplishments. However, monitoring which includes documenting the implementation process can serve as a means of examining more thoroughly the integrity of effect and outcome assessments.

Evaluation will focus more on program effects and outcome. School districts may not have the time or the resources to develop separate data collection measures to evaluate each new program that is being implemented. For ES/PIE, monitoring and evaluation need not be seen as entirely separate enterprises requiring entirely different data collection. In fact, these two activities should be coordinated in such a way that one benefits from the other.

A school district might consider having different staff assigned to the ES/PIE monitoring and evaluation efforts. In the pages that follow, some examples of the type of information that the program monitor and/or program evaluator will need are provided, along with some examples of ES/PIE monitoring and evaluation activities. The program monitor and/or program evaluator should begin coordinating their efforts when the ES/PIE program implementation formulated.



## A. Providing monitor with information about ES/PIE.

The school district liaison needs to provide the program monitor with sufficient background information about the general ES/PIE program description for him/her to achieve a clear understanding about how the district has adapted the ES/PIE program to meet its own needs and objectives.

## ACTIVITIES

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# A.1 Describe the school district's ES/PIE program to the person in charge of monitoring the district's ES/PIE program.

The district's goals, intended activities and expected outcomes need to be stated, along with an indication of resources to be used and tentative implementation timelines. The monitor will act as a time and score-keeper for the district's ES/PIE implementation.

- a. Describe specific needs identified to be addressed by school district through ES/PIE.
- b. Describe specific activities, expected outcomes, and timelines.
- c. Describe available resources (people or materials) that have been identified within the district to help the ES/PIE program.
- d. Describe resources (people or materials) that have been identified outside the district that can be used for ES/PIE purposes.

- List of needs.
- Implementation plan.
- People (presenters).
- Materials.
- People (consultants).
- Materials.

## A.2 Provide the program implementation plan to the monitor.

- a. Discuss proposed monitoring instruments or techniques that monitor plans to use.
- b. Provide monitor with program implementation plan, including specified activities, tasks, assignments, and deadlines.
- Log keeping.
- Timelines.



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- c. Set up schedule for regular updates from monitor on program implementation progress.
- d. Analyze jointly regular updates and develop corrective measures that may be warranted.
- Update schedule.
- Regular meetings.

## B. Evaluating the ES/PIE Program Activities.

The evaluation activities to be carried out will depend on the specific program activities planned. The school district liaison needs to work closely with the person in charge of the evaluation.

There are some evaluation activities that may require prior approval from the employer liaison. Therefore, the evaluator should ideally be one more member of the school district's ES/PIE team, and be involved in all planning activities for the implementation of ES/PIE by the school district.

## ACTIVITIES

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# B.1 Assess the strategies and materials used for promoting the ES/PIE program and for recruiting employer partners.

This assessment is important because an employer's decision to participate in ES/PIE with the school district will be influenced by the district's approach and the information and materials provided during the promotion and recruitment phase.

- a. Obtain from the school district liaison the materials used in the promotion and recruitment of the employer partner.
- b. Request that the school district liaison or the person who made the personal visit to present the ES/PIE proposal to the employer write for the program files a confidential note with his/her impressions of the meeting, any concerns or doubts raised by the employer, and any other information that may help determine why the employer accepted or rejected the invitation to participate.
- c. After an employer partner has been committed and a working relationship has been established, request the employer liaison's advice on other employers or businesses to approach, and how it can best be done.

  NOTE: Business people, and in

NOTE: Business people, and in particul: personnel managers and other human resources profession-

- Materials used.
- Confidential report or
- Debriefing interview by evaluator of school district visitor.

- List of contacts.
- Suggested approaches.



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als often have close relations with their peers in other organizations.

- d. Request that employer liaison review the program's informational materials and suggest ways to make them more effective or appealing.
- Revised materials.
- Other suggestions.

# B.2 Assess the strategies and materials used by the employer partner to promote workplace seminars.

This assessment is important because a working parent's decision on whether or not to attend a given seminar will be influenced by the strategy and materials used to promote it.

- a. Obtain from the employer liaison information about how a given seminar was promoted and samples of the materials used. (See Exhibit 3.2f.)
- b. Obtain from the employer liaison information about the dates when notices about the seminars were posted, distributed, or published, and where and how often.
- c. Ask seminar participants how they found out about the seminar, when, and what was the main reason that they decided to attend.

  NOTE: This will require prior approval on the part of the employer liaison. It should be

approval on the part of the employer liaison. It should be pointed out how useful the information to be collected could be for the employer's own assessment of its internal communication channels.

## B.3 Assess the seminar plans and the actual delivery.

This assessment is important because the implementation process is often influenced by factors that cannot be

- Samples of promotional materials.
- Dates, places, etc. (See Exhibit 4.2b.)
- Question on seminar evaluation form or show of hands prior to start.

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anticipated. Consequently, the actual seminar delivered may be quite different from its design.

- a. Request plans for the seminar--its projected duration, contents, handouts, etc.--from the school district liaison.
- b. Compare plans with actual seminar delivered. (See Exhibit E2,3b for sample observation/recording form.)
- c. Examine factors that explain why there was a discrepancy.
- d. Compare seminar delivery with suggestions for seminar presenters. (See Exhibit 3.3f,b.)
- e. Provide that information to the school district liaison and presenter, if appropriate.
- B.4 Assess seminar attendance, opinions, and satisfaction of participants.

This assessment is important because a minimum level of participation may be required by either employer or district partner to justify the delivery of future additional seminars on the same or other topics.

- a. Record the number of participants compared to the number expected by the employer liaison and the total potential audience.
- b. Record the level of audience participation in terms of questions asked, comments made about information presented, etc.
- c. Ask employer liaison to include in the agenda a brief seminar evaluation form. (See Exhibit E2,4c for a sample.)

• Seminar plan.

• Observation form.

• Report.

• Report. (See Exhibit 3.1c.)

- Observation form.
- Observation form.
- Seminar evaluation form.

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d. Offer employer liaison the option to participate in the analysis and summary of the report on the seminar. (See Exhibit 3.1c for a sample report.)

• Report on seminar.

B.5 Assess the relative success of ES/PIE program influence in changing the employer's leave policies to improve parents' involvement in the education of their children.

This assessment requires close collaboration from and contact with the employer liaison and its support committee. It will consist of their own assessment of the workplace general climate, and any other information gathered, along with their recommendation to their own management for changes.

- a. Interview liaison to determine if they plan to examine leave policy issues, and how.
- b. If they plan to survey their employees, request to be a part or assist with the analysis of the data.
- c. If they plan to use focus group meetings, request that you be invited to attend/observe, or at least to get a summary report of their findings, conclusions and recommendations or request to management for action.
- d. Interview employer liaison to determine if ES/PIE support committee recommendations were accepted and implemented by employer.

- Information about plans.
- Findings.
- Recommendations.

• Information about changes implemented.

## LIST OF EXHIBITS

SECTION	TITLE
1.1a	ES/PIE Program Description (full size)
1.1c	tS/PIt Program Proposal for district (reduced)
1.1e	Community Resources Checklist (full size)
2.1f	Letter to employer requesting appointment (full size)
2.1f,a	Promotional procnure for Workplace Seminars (full size)
2.1f,b	Same as above, no district name (full circ)
2.1f,c	Public Education Needs Employer Support (full size)
2.1f,d	Parent Involvement and its Relationship to Student Achievement The Impetus for Operation Fail-Safe
2.1,i	Letter of confirmation of agreement (full size)
3.1b	Survey of Employee Interest (full size)
3.1c	Summary Report on Seminars and Survey (reduced)
3.2f	Sample riyer to "Brown Bag luncheon" (full size)
3.3a	Possible Topics for Workplace Seminars (from Working Parnts Project research findings) (full size)
3.3e,a	Operation Fail Safe Brochure (reduced)
3.3e,b	Operation Fail Safe Brochures (reduced)
3.3e,d	International Reading Association Booklets (reduced)
3.3e,e	Austin ISD Testing Calendar (reduced)
3.3e,f	Austin ISD Brochure on Teams Exam (full size)
3.3f,a	Sample Agenda for Lunch Hour Seminars (full size)
3.3f,b	Some Tips for Seminar Presenters (full size)
4.2b	Sample Newsletter Announcement (enlarged)
4.2h	Actual Seminar Agenda (full size)
5.1b,a	Austin ISD School Calendar (reduced)
5.1b,b	Niagara Falls School District Calendar/Guide (reduced)
5.1b,c	Round Rock ISD School Calendar (reduced)
5.2d,a	The Parent Center, Albuquerque Public Schools Brochure (reduced)
5.2d,b	Work and Family Institute, Vocational Education Pamphlets (reduced)
5.4a	Corporate Statement of Support for Employee Involvement in
5.4d	the Education of their Children (draft, full size) Houston ISD Letter to Employers (full size)
E2.3b	Observation Form (for monitoring seminars) (full size)
E2.4c	Observation Form (for monitoring seminars) (full size) Seminar Evaluation Form (full size)



## EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION: A PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL-EMPLOYER COLLABORATION

## INTRODUCTION

Parents are essential actors in the formal education of their children. For many dual-earner and single-parent families, however, the uncoordinated and often conflicting demands of school and workplace may force parents to choose between meeting their work and their parental responsibilities. These dilemmas and conflicts are unnecessary and can be resolved.

The Working Parents Project (WPP) of the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) in Austin, Texas, offers some research-based suggestions. With funding from the National Institute of Education, WPP has developed and is sharing a set of guidelines under which schools and employers can work together to relieve some of the dilemmas to the benefit of all concerned: employers, school personnel, parents, and especially the

## MPP STRATEGIES FOR INCREASING PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

Active support of schools by private sector businesses and other employers can take many forms. Some forms involve transfer of tangible goods, including not only what a business produces, but also money and certain services. One example of that type of business-school collaboration is the popular idopt-a-School model, such as those in place between the Dallas and Austin Independent School Districts and their respective business communities. The pairing of schools or programs with specific businesses or organizations provides an excellent avenue for involvement by the schools.

The Working Parents Project recommends that another type of business-school collaborative effort be initiated, one that would impact the educational attainment of children by (1) helping working parents and single parents to become more involved in education and to participate in activities with their own children at their own schools, and (2) having schools extend information to working parents at their workplaces. We call this strategy EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION, or, for short, ES/PIE.



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## 1. The Role of Employers in ES/PIE

WPP proposes that employers make part of their corporate policies a statement that actively affirms the value for society of a better educated new generation. If employers not only facilitate but actually actively promote the involvement of their employees in the education of their own children, they will accomplish a massive transference of social energy to the educational enterprise. The bulk of that energy is provided by the parents themselves, who have the primary vested interest in the educational success of their own children. The role of the employer is to provide the initial push, to remove some barriers that currently may restrain the universal interest that working parents have in providing their children with maximum educational advantages.

Children must be perceived by businesses as future workers who will continue to produce goods and services and as future consumers of those same goods and services.

In addition to these long-term considerations, it is important to note that there are benefits in a trend toward an increasing humanization of the workplace, where workers can expect to be treated more as whole persons rather than just replaceable human resources. The affirmation of the value of children's education in general, and that of the children of employees in particular, would let employees know that the employers care about them and their families. This should have a positive effect on the overall employees' level of satisfaction and on their morale and productivity.

WPP suggests a number of alternative measures that represent various levels of corporate commitment and support, with corresponding costs of corporate time and resources. The adoption of a formal "Corporate Statement of Support for Parental School Involvement," when issued by the highest corporate authority, makes explicit the rationals for encouraging employees to become more involved in the education of their children.

Some specific measures that can be taken include:

- a) Promotion of the use of already existing leave mechanisms for parental involvement in the education of children
- b) Provision of a new policy of matching, hour for hour, existing short-term, hourly leave provisions, provided that such leave is requested by employees in advance and for school involvement purposes. This policy could establish a maximum number of hours per calendar (or school) year to be matched for each employee.
- c) Another alternative is the establishment of a special form of short-term leave, to be designated for school involvement purposes, and to be requested and granted following established procedures, not to exceed a set number of hours per calendar year.
- d¹ Provision of space on a bulletin board(s) or regular space in internal newsletters or other information channels to be used to publicize information about educational issues, school activities, or other education-related items of interest to parents. The



1 4 5 14 1 15 1 1 38

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information may be furnished by employees themselves or it may be received from liaison persons in the schools, school districts, PTAs, etc.

- e) Provision of access to and suitable space for informational or training activities for employees, using speakers, leaders, or trainers provided by schools, school districts, voluntary organizations, or any other appropriate community agencies.
- f) Provision of access to corporate facilities and resources, including either a special fund for these activities or use of corporate training mechanisms, to support training and information activities concerning children and education.
- g) Provision of facilities for the operation, on the work site, of special purpose groups of employees, such as Social Support Groups of Single Parents.

## 2. The Role of Schools in ES/PIE

There is sufficient evidence that school personnel, including teachers, principals, and other administrators, value parental participation. Despite such attitudes, however, specific practices and policies of schools may actually discourage participation and support on the part of parents. Most teachers and school administrators have not received, as part of their formal education, specialized training to prepare them for successful implementation of parental participation policies and practices.

The strategy that WPP recommends represents a true two-way collaborative effort between employers and schools. The strategy requires from the school partners:

- a) A concerted effort to provide information to employers about regularly scheduled activities, such as holidays, inservice training days, achievement testing periods, parent-teacher conference periods, etc.
- D) Increased awareness by school personned of the limitations of those parents who work full-time during the day, so that at least some school activities, both at the classroom level and at the school-wide level, are scheduled in a more balanced fashion between day and evening hours. Such rearrangements of schedules would increase the likelihood that working parents, with support from their employers, could take part in more school events.
- c) Finally, schools can provide outreach activities of an an informational nature, directed to parents in their workplaces. The capacity of individual schools' to provide this outreach may be limited, but permanent "public relations" efforts are becoming more common, especially among large, urban school districts that can afford specialized personnel. These efforts target parents, the private sector, and other community organizations.



Publicity about this particular kind of school-business activity can generate community-wide support for the educational enterprise, increase community cohesiveness, and increase the chances that the general public, as taxpayers, will be willing to bear the cost of education in general.

In order to carry out its part of the collaborative effort, the school districts may designate a person or office to act as liaison with the participating businesses.

The following are some of the activities that could be the responsibility of the liaison person or office:

- a) To gather necessary information about educational events from school principals, other school administrators and teachers.
- b) To provide information to employers about system-wide activities, such as the official school calendar and announcements of special events, and about special events that will take place in individual schools. The format can be a newsletter suitable for posting in specially designated areas in the workplaces.
- c) To identify, within the school district, resource persons and materials that can be used for outreach activities.
- d) To identify resources outside the school district, such as local community programs, voluntary organizations, professional organizations, educational service centers, colleges of education, education research and development agencies, etc.
- e) To prepare a program of self-contained, short (one hour or less) outreach activities that can be carried out at workplaces (e.g., "brown bay seminars" to be held during the lunch hour or at other suitable times). Topics that have been used in other programs and that are supported by specific comments made by respondents in the WPP research with dual-earner and single-parent families include:
  - 1) preparation for parent-teacher conferences,
  - 2) parental involvement options for working parents,
  - 3) helping with homework,
  - 4) developing good home study habits,
  - 5) Relating to children, and
  - questions and answers about school policies and issues, such as counseling for career choices, vocational education, determination of attendance zones, parental access to school records, transfer policies, school safety, school lunch programs, cross-town transportation, provision of in-school after-school care, gifted and talented programs, summer school programs, etc.





These activities and other changes in procedures and policies of employers, schools, and other agencies can be of great importance to those arising from child care, their children's education, and other family needs. Changes such as those discussed here should be welcomed by other workers, such as those single, childless, or with older children, since these measures could also accommodate their own needs for a satisfying personal life apart from their jobs and careers.



## REACHING WORKING PARENTS: A PROPOSAL FOR ACTION

#### Background

As part of the school district's efforts to expand parent involvement, the district has been reviewing a program developed by the staff from the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory's Working Parents Project (MPP). Funded through the National Institute of Education, this project presents some research-based suggestions which address ways of involving dual-earner and single-parent families more in their children's schools and education. The Working Parents Project puts forth a series of useful guidelines for ways in which both schools and employers can work together towards this goal. Their strategy, the Employer-Supported Parental Involvement in Education program (ES/PIE), is discussed and expanded upon in this summery to specifically address the AISD educational setting,

AISD is interested in this strategy because of its expressed goal to seek ways of increasing parent involvement. Community support for this goal has been demonstrated in many ways, including via a community involvement recommendation (#6) in the Forming the Future program. That recommendation stated that "Improved communication between parents and schools is needed on curriculum and school issues." Horkshops were one of the vehicles suggested as a meant towards implementing this recommendation.

#### Description of the Strategy

Essentially, the Employer-Supported Parantal Involvement in Education program would bring the school to the workplace via a series of saminars on topics of mutual concern to the school district and parents. Such topics might include: H.B. 72, the Essential Elements and Curriculum Reform, AISD discipline policy etc. Initial meeting of the parents could be on a broad topic, such as H.B. 72. Out of that first seminar, additional areas of parental concern could be identified, These issues could then be the focus of future seminars.

#### Implementation of Project

The following process would be employed in implementing this program:

- via a media effort during August (brochures to prospective employers, press releases, public service announcements, etc.), information concerning this project could be communicated to Austin area employers
- those employers interested in having AISD staff persons conduct seminars would contact the designated school district contact person to indicate their desire to participate

- a a cLire of knowledgeable AISD staff would be identified as speakers to prospective employer parent groups
- -e based upon feedback from parents during these initial seminars,
   -additional topics generated will be presented at follow-up sessions during the school year
- a AISD would evaluate the effectiveness of this project during the spring of 1986 via questionnaires, informal discussions with participating parents and AISD staff, and other measures.

## . Expected Benefits of the ES/PIE Program

The perceived benefits of this program are as follows:

- a The school district has a new venicle for communicating important information concerning its policies and programs to working parents in a direct, personal way. This is particularly important in view of the tremendous changes brought about by H.B. 246 and H.B. 72
- a AISD has an opportunity to communicate to working parents its concern for actively involving them in the education of their children and its sensitivity to the inherent constraints that working parents must operate under in dealing with the school district
- a 'AISD is able to accertain the concerns of many working parents from all socioeconomic levels, thus providing a valuable new source for parental input
- a Employers have another way of showing their employees that they care about them and their children. Additionally, they can communicate their support for the schools and the community to their respective workers
- a Parents have direct access to the school personnel for information of great importance to their children's education

xhibit 1.1c

ERIC

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES CHECKLIST

The following is a partial list of various types of organizations and agencies that may operate in your community. At some point, any one of these could become a source of information, materials, speakers, or general support for your ES/PIE program. Remember that all of these are either public, public service, or not-for-profit organizations, and therefore, within reasonable limits, they may be able and willing to provide your program with materials or services. In all cases, they will appreciate whatever good publicity and recognition your school or school district can provide to them.

- Colleges and universities, in particular faculty in the college of education, departments of psychology, sociology, home economics, and the schools of business, social work, and nursing. In addition, some colleges and universities have special extension and community outreach programs.
- 2. Junior colleges and community colleges. Often offer programs in child care, child development, and other skills directed to adults.
- 3. Agricultural extension agencies. In many states, the county extension functions have expanded to include family concerns such as child care, parent education, and work and the family, in addition to agricultural topics, nutrition, home economics, and financial counseling.
- 4. Chambers of Commerce. Sany times they have departments concerned with education and other quality of life aspects of the community. Ideal channel to reach other members of the business community.
- 5. Hospitals. Many conduct outreach preventative health education programs, such as wellness programs, and have speakers' bureaus and printed and audiovisual materials.
- 6. Professional associations and organizations. Many have local chapters to which professionals in your community belong. These include various organizations of educators, personnel officers, human resource managers, business and professional women's organizations. etc.
- 7. Voluntary organizations. In addition to parent/teacher organizations, other groups such as Junior League chapters, YMCA and YMCA and others have educationally-related programs and activities.
- 8. Fraternal organizations. Some, like Lions, Rotary Clubs, Elk Lodges, Shriners, and others, also often get involved in and provide funds for educationally-related activities.
- 9. Charity umbrella organizations, such as United Way, United Fund, March of Dimes, etc., also conduct or sponsor educational activities. They often compile community directories of social services, listing those that receive their support and other resources.
- 10. Social service agencies. Whether private or publicly funded, social service organizations often conduct educational and other outreach activities and publish booklets and other materials.



August 14, 1985

Mr./Ms. So and So Manager, Human Resources Acme Consolidated Industries, Inc. My Town, My State Zip

Dear Mr./Ms.

This is to follow up on our telephone conversation. We appreciate this opportunity to talk to you about our Employer-Supported Parental Involvement in Education (ES/PIE) program. As you can see from the enclosed description of the program, there are a number of ways in which the school district and your company can work together to help your employees help their children get the best education possible.

I am looking forward to meeting with you next Wednesday morning. I will be accompanied by Ms. Terry Smith, our supervisor for elementary schools, who is also involved with our ES/PIE program.

Sincerely yours,

Your Name Assistant Superintendent My Town ISD

**Enclosures** 





## SOUTHWEST EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY 211 East Seventh Street Austin, Texas 78701 512/476-6861

## Can EMPLOYERS help SCHOOLS help PARENTS help CHILDREN?

## SOME FACTS:

- o Parents are essential actors in the education of their own children.
- The great majority of the parents today work full-day, full-time schedules.
- O A large proportion of parents' work schedule overlaps with regular school hours.
- Most working parents spend about half of their active hours in their workplace and away from home and schools.
- o Most large employers have lunch rooms or cafeterias at the workplace. .

## A PROBLEM:

- Several provisions of the legislative mandated educational reforms being implemented by the Austin Independent School District require a greater degree of involvement from parents.
- The Austin Independent School District needs to communicate to parents important new information about options, opportunities, and restrictions that will have important implications for their children's educational careers/future.
- Because of time restrictions and overlapping schedules, many working parents encounter serious difficulties regarding participation in school events and in communicating with their childrens' teachers and school administrators.
- o For the same reasons, individual schools and the school district face difficulties reaching WORKING PARENTS with important information, responding to their questions, and clarifying issues and policies of great importance to parents and their children.

A PARTIAL SOLUTION TO COMMUNICATING WITH WORKING PARENTS IS...



## REACHING WORKING PARENTS AT THEIR WORK PLACES!

- The Austin Independent School District, with assistance from the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory\*, Austin, Texas, offers this service in a special effort directed to parents that are otherwise hard to reach.
- You, as a concerned employer, can show your support for education in general and for your employees and their children, in particular, by facilitating school district representatives' access to interested employees IN YOUR WORKPLACE.
- o Face-to face seminars or workshops with small groups of interested employees can take place during lunch breaks or at other suitable times, at any convenient place in your facility.
- O There are a number of specific topics that can be presented in the form of lunch hour/brown bag seminars, to address the issues of greatest interest to parents.
- O These forms of person-to-person communication with authoritative school personnel, can effectively convey important information and clarify confusing and/or complicated policies and issues.
- o In addition, you can provide space in your own internal communication media, such as newsletters and bulletin boards, for information and/or announcements about important school events or issues.
- There are other ways in which you can facilitate your parent/employee's participation in the education of their children. The Austin Independent School District, with technical assistance from the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory in Austin, Texas, can work out more detailed plans with you, in order to match your specific needs, concerns, limitations, and resources with the needs of your parent/employees and their children.



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<sup>\*</sup>The Southwest Educational Development Laboratory is a private, non-profit corporation located in Austin, Texas and serves educational research and development needs of state and local education agencies in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.



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- Because of time restrictions and overlapping schedules, many working parents encounter serious difficulties regarding participation in school events and in communicating with their childrens' teachers and school administrators.
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**BEST COPY AVAILABLE** 

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\*The Southwest Educational Development Laboratory is a private, non-profit corporation located in Austin, Texas and serves educational research and development needs of state and local education agencies in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

For more information contact:
Dr. Renato Espinoza
Southwest Educational Development Laboratory
211 East 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 476-6861

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## PUBLIC EDUCATION NEEDS EMPLOYER SUPPORT

The problems of public education currently facing our nation are very serious according to many leading education authorities. One of the most widely acclaimed reports of the present condition of education was by the National Commission on Excellence in Education and is titled A Nation at Risk. This report describes an overall decline in student achievement and states that 13% of the 17 year olds in the United States are functionally illiterate and that two-thirds cannot solve mathematics problems requiring several steps.

The Commission's report also emphasizes that American businesses and the military must spend millions of dollars on remedial education to teach the basic skills of reading, writing. spelling and arithmetic. Therefore, it is understandable that American businesses are becoming more and more interested in assuring that today's students are better educated. Companies are becoming involved in the education of America's youth by "adopting" schools and providing resources (equipment, tutors and money). While these efforts are very beneficial, businesses may have more direct impact by considering the needs of their own employees and their schoolaged children.

Parents are children's first teachers and continue to be in the best position to encourage and motivate their children to succeed academically. Educational research has repeatedly shown that parental involvement in school is effective in influencing academic motivation and achievement in children. For this reason, it is imperative that all parents of schoolaged children be assisted in their efforts to become involved in their children's education.

Most parents of school-aged children in the United States are employed outside the home. In Texas, 66% of married women with school-aged children and 80% of single or divorced women with school-aged children are employed. In Austin, 26,000 families with school-aged children are headed by working parents.

In research conducted by the Working Parents Project of the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory in Austin, it was found that many working parents cannot be as involved in their children's schooling as they would like because they feel they cannot request time off from work to participate in school activities. Even employees with companies which provide personal leave time or compensatory leave reported that they are reluctant to use available leave for attending school functions because it is not an acceptable reason for missing work. Therefore, it is necessary for employers to actively promote their employees' involvement in their children's education by establishing parental involvement in school as a valid reason for using leave time or compensatory time.

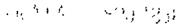


Businesses can reap many benefits from encouraging parents to participate in their children's schooling. They will likely be perceived as more interested in the well-being of employees' families, which can lead to increased loyalty, morale and productivity of employees. In addition, the employer who publicly adopts a policy which encourages parents to become more involved in their children's education will likely improve its image throughout the community.

Businesses are not only affected by their public image, their image affects the attitudes and beliefs of the community. Company officers are often viewed as community leaders and serve as role models to everyone in a community. Therefore, business leaders are in a privileged position for influencing the entire community's attitudes toward the importance of education. By promoting parental involvement in school within their own organizations, business leaders will be encouraging all members of a community to become involved in the education of our youth.

Prepared by:

Working Parents Project Southwest Educational Development Laboratory 211 E. 7th Street Austin, Texas 78701



## Exhibit 2.1f,d

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT—THE IMPETUS FOR OPERATION FAIL-SAFE

The HISD has conducted two studies within the 1977-78 school year to determine the relationship between parent involvement and student achievement. The first study involved the comparison of the parent involvement in each school, as determined by the school principal, to the composite score of either the sixth, eighth or eleventh grade students on standardized achievement tests. Within elementary, junior, and senior high schools, level of parent involvement was statistically compared with achievement test scores using a correlation procedure. The analyses revealed a significant positive relationship between parent involvement and student achievement at every level. From these analyses, it can be inferred that schools with high levels of parent involvement also tend to have high achievement test scores.

A second study, a pilot parent involvement program, was also conducted during the 1977-78 school year. The Parent Assist Program was an effort to involve parents in home instruction with their children. Approximately 200 parents of third grade students participated in four schools. Criteria for selection of schools included socioeconomic and multi-ethnic factors, as well as geographical location and commitment of Area and building level administrators. Parents were recruited through meetings, telephone calls, and letters explaining the program.

A commercially prepared diagnostic test was administered to the students to identify weaknesses in the reading skills areas of word attack and comprehension. Test data and teacher input were taken into consideration in matching instructional materials to individual skills deficits. Materials were pre-packaged and distributed weekly for parent-child use at home. Completed packets were returned by the parents on a designated day of the week, at which time questions or problems could be discussed with the teacher coordinator, principal, and parent support person. A new materials packet was picked up at the same time. Materials were selected on the basis of adaptability for parent use.

The reading subtests of the lowe Test of Basic Skills were administered pre (November, 1977) and post (April, 1978) to all third grade students in the four schools. Students not participating in the program served as a control group. Each group gained five (5) months on the reading comprehension subtest. However, when the vocabulary mean test scores for the two groups were statistically analyzed, a significant difference was found in favor of program participants. The program participants scored 1-1/2 months higher than did the control group. It was felt that the differences were found in vocabulary rather than comprehension because the materials were oriented toward word attack skills.

From these two analyses, the Houston Independent School District feels confident in actively pursuing a district-wide parent involvement program in an effort to impact the achievement levels within the school district.



## AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Operations and Community Resources** 



August 2, 1985

Ž.

Austin, Texas, 78758

Dear Mr.

Pursuant to the discussion we held in your office last week. I offer the following comments in the program outline we will follow during the proposed seminars for parents and patrons in the work place.

The first presentation would include information, requirements, options, and student restrictions as mandated by the new legislation. Our representatives will review the academic requirements for both the elementary and secondary schools, curriculum requirements, extra curricular implications and student testing requirements. Additionally, a period for questions/answers and comments will be scheduled. We hope to package the presentation in a manner that will be interesting and informative.

Again, thank you for your cooperative spirit and your approval of our proposal. I will be available for discussion with you as you feel will be necessary.

We look forward to the seminar sessions and to working with you and your department.

Sincerely,

Assistant Superintendent Operations & Community Resources

xc: Mr.

Dr. R. Espinoza

Attachments

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE** 



## Exhibit 3.1b

## SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE INTEREST

This seminar is a pilot effort to explore one way of providing educational information and skills at the workplace to employees who have school-age children. Your answers to this survey will help your employer in determining the feasibility of this approach and the nature of the educational needs and concerns of the employees.

Α.	GE of	NERAL INFORMATION. Please provide the following in your school-age children:	oform	ation	abou	ıt ead	h one	
		GENDER (M/F) GRADE SCHOOL			C	ISTRI	CT	
	1.							
	2.							
	3.							
	4.							
	5.							
С.	Ple wil	you have a spouse living at home? YESNO	(Defi inars	nitel unde	y wi er th	lling e fo	), how llowing	
			Not Willing			Definitely Willing		
	1.	Normal lunch period	1	2	3	4	5	
	2.	Normal lunch period + some work time	1	2	3	4	5	
	3.	Some work time + personal time after work at the workplace	1	2	3	4	5	
	4.	Half-hour seminars after work hours at the workplace	1	2	3	4	5	
	5.	Arriving 30 minutes before normal start time	1	2	2	A	£	



D. INTEREST IN OTHER TOPICS. Please indicate degree of interest (circle one rating):

			Not Interested			Very Interested		
1.	"Preparing Your Child for Elementary School"	1	2	3	4	5		
2.	"Helping Your Child Succeed in Elementary School"	1	2	3	4	5		
3.	"Helping Your Child Succeed in Junior High School"	1	2	3	4	5		
4.	"Helping Your Child Succeed in High School"	1	2	3	4	5		
5.	"Teaching Your Child Good Study Skills"	1	2	3	4	5		
6.	"How To Balance Academics with Extracurricular Activities"	1	2	3	4	5		
7.	"Parent-Teacher Conferences: What Parents Need To Know"	1	2	3	4	<sub>.</sub> 5		
8.	"Sex Education In The School: Why, When, and How"	1	2	3	4	5		
9.	Other (please specify)							
Do ;	you have any additional comments?							
<u>.                                    </u>						·		
			_					



A STATE

## The \*\*\* Seminars

## Pilot Implementation of the \*\*\*\*\* Program

## Summary Report\* Preliminary Analyses

Two seminars were offered at \*\*\* one on August 27 and the other on August 29. The seminars were organized by AISD personnel with assistance from MPP/SEDL staff. The presenters were from Austin ISD and Round Rock ISD. These two seminars constitute a pilot effort to explore one way of providing educational information and skills at the werkplace to employees who have school-age children.

The theme of both seminars was "House Bill 72." The specific topics were: (a) new curriculum requirements, (b) attendance requirements, and (c) testing requirements. During the first seminar, a brief legislative review was effered as introduction to the specific topics; during the second seminar, the legislative review was effered as part of the topics. Some of the presenters were not the same in both seminars.

Nine participants attended each seminar. These participants were requested to answer an employee survey before the seminar started and to answer an evaluation form at the end of the seminar.

MPP/SEDL staff observed and assessed both seminars, and kept track of time. A special observation form was used for this purpose.

A preliminary analysis of the responses to the employee survey and the evaluation form has been performed. A summary of the major findings is provided here. Some of the observations made by the MPP/SEDL staff are also reported.

## "SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE INTEREST" (Two seminars combined)

## Majer Findings

## Participant Characteristics

- e fifty-six percent of the participants had only elementary grade school children while 23% had either both elementary and junior high school children or elementary and senior high school children. The remaining parents had children either in junior high only, senior high only, or pre-k.
- e Forty-four percent of the participants had only male children, 33% had only femule children, and 22% had both male and female children.
- 6 Fifty-six percent of the participants had their children in an AISO school, 22% had their children in a RRISO school, and the remaining 22% had their children either in a private school, a day care center (pre-k) or in a Georgetown ISO school.
- e lighty-three percent of the participants had a spouse living at home.
- e All participants were female.

## Seminar Time Arrangements

- e The two time arrangements under which more participants said they would be willing to attend future seminars were:
  - 1. Normal lunch period with some company time (78%)
  - 2. Half-hour seminars during normal lunch period (72%)

## Additional Topics of Interest

- e The five additional seminar topics in which more participants expressed interest were:
- I. "Parent-Teacher Conferences: What Parents Need To Know" (94%)
- 2. "Sex Education in The School: Why, When, and How" (89%)
- 3. "Teaching Your Child Good Study Skills" (78%)
- 4. "How To Balance Academics with Extracurricular Activities" (72%)
- 5. "Helping Your Child Succeed in Elementary School" (72%)

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<sup>\*</sup> This is a special summary report prepared by the Working Parents Project.
Division of Family, School and Community Studies, Southwest Educational
Devalopment Laboratory.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The company name.
\*\*\*\* The program name

## "EDUCATIONAL REFORM - A LOOK AT HB 72"

## EVALUATION FORM (Two Seninars Combined)

### Major Findings\*

#### Information

- Fifty percent of the participants indicated that the information was new to them. Thirty-three percent indicated that the newness of the information was somewhat in between.
- Eighty-nine percent of the participants indicated that the information was both interesting and valuable. (Eleven percent of the participants did not answer this item.)

## **Presenters**

- Eighty-three percent of the participants indicated that the presenters seemed knowledgeable about the issues discussed. Six percent indicated that the presenters level of knowledge seemed sementar in between.
- Seventy-eight percent of the participants indicated that the presenters communicated the information well. Six percent indicated that the quality of the communication was somewhat in between.

#### Time

- e Opinions from the participants concerning the time allowed for presentation were mixed and almost equally balanced (39% indicated that the time was adequate, 22% indicated that it was not, and 20% indicated that it was somewhat in between).
- Opinions concerning the time allowed for questions and discussion were also mixed and elmost equally balanced (33% indicated that the time was adequate, 22% indicated that it was not, and 33% indicated that it was somewhat in between).

# \* There were 5 possible ratings for items concerning the seminar. The ratings ranged from 1 (Definitely Not) to 5 (Definitely Yes). For reporting purposes, ratings 4 and 5 were grouped and treated as an overall "Yes," ratings 1 and 2 were grouped and treated as an overall "No," and rating 3 was kept the same and treated as a rating somewhat in between. From 11% (2) to 22% (4) of the participants did not answer the items.

#### Handouts

e Seventy-two percent of the participants indicated that the handouts would be useful to them. Six percent indicated that the usefulness of the handouts would be somewhat in between.

## Seminar in General

 Eighty-nine percent of the participants indicated that they would recommend the seminar to other working parents. (The remaining 11% did not answer this item.)

#### Benefits Obtained

- The benefits which more participants indicated they had obtained were:
- Information that will help them in making some decisions about their children's education (89%)
- 2. Answers to questions they had (835)
- 3. Motivation to take some actions concerning their children's education (78%)



## CEMERAL OBSERVATIONS (Two Seminars Combined)

## Timing

e The scheduled time was followed. (The seminar was scheduled for one hour and the time was distributed in the following way: Introduction: 5 mins.; Prasentations, 32 mins. total; Discussion, 20 mins.; Evaluation; 3 mins.)

## Room

e A ragular conference room with a stage for the presenters was meed. The room was ready on time; however, some minor changes were made to the needs of the presenters. A long table and chairs for the presenters with our on the stage.

#### Participation

- e Sixty-savan percent of the participants in both semiears beken questions and/o
- e Hore than 10 questions were asked in each seminar.
- · The questions addressed the following issues:
- 1. Time allowed for recess and lunch
- 2. Atendance during bad weather, unexcused absences
- 3. Hixed skills levels in some classrooms (grouping)
- 4. Teacher work (overload, pressure), teaching approach, teacher competence
- 5. Examples of specific skills required by students, minimum and is required
- 6. Homework (Is it really necessary? Do parents really need to spend two hours or more helping students with their assignments?)
- 7. How can parents help their children?
- 8. Consistency of rules/policies among schools (within and among school districts)
- 9. Remedial help/tutoring on time
- 10. Gifted students, skipping grades
- 11. No pass no play
- 12. Use of seat Selts in school buses
- 13. Advising students for testing
- 14. Curriculum for 4 year olds
- 15. How is drug problem in school handled?

#### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In general, the participants seemed interested in the topics discussed in the seminar they attended. This interest was reflected in the number and the types of questions they asked and in the comments they made during the seminar. Also, the participants seemed pleased with the way the seminar was conducted and with the outcomes. However, there were mixed feelings concerning the time allowed for presentation and for questions and discussion. This suggests that the \*\*\* participants' second choice of time arrangements for future seminars (helf-hour seminars during normal lunch period) may not be appropriate, unless the seminars are limited to one specific topic and are offered frequently. Even then, time and cost involved in travelling for presenters and time and offert required from IBM officials should be considered. The first choice of time arrangements (normal lunch period with some company time) may in fact be the Cost for both school

In light of the findings reported here, the following actions are suggested:

- Conduct a survey to detarmine the reasons why other employees did not attend the: seminars and to detarmine their willingness to attend future ones (\*\*\*, MPP);
- Interview the \*\*\* contact person to: (a) find out his opinion about the seminars that were effored, (b) "astimate" time, cost and effort involved, and (c) determine his willingness to sponsor future seminars (MPP).
- Survey/interview the presenters to: (a) find out their opinions about the seminars they effored, (b) "estimate" time and cost involved, and (c) determine their willingness to offer future seminars (MPP).
- 4. Heet to discuss the findings and any other relevant issues that should be considered to continue these collaboration activities (\*\*\*, AISD, RRISD, MPP).

\*\*\* The company name



#### \*\*\* Seniar

#### Pilot implementation of the \*\*\*\*\* Program

#### Summary Recort\* Preliminary Applyags

A seminar was offered at \*\*\* on August 29. The seminar was organized and delivered by AISD with assistance from MPP/SEDL staff. This seminar constitutes a pilot effort to explore one way of providing educational information and skills at the workplace to employees who have school-age children.

The theme of the seminar was "House Bill 72." The specific topics were: (a) new curriculum requirements and (b) new extracurricular activities regulations.

Fourteen participants attended the seminar; five were male and nine were female. After the seminar was over, the participants were sent an employee survey and an evaluation form which they were to answer and return to the \*\*\* contact person.

WPP/SEDL staff observed and assessed the seminar, and kept track of time. A special observation form was used for this purpose.

A preliminary analysis of the responses to the employee survey and the evaluation form has been performed. A summary of the major findings is provided here. Some of the observations m. 'e by the MPP/SEDL staff are also reported.

\*\*\*\* The program name

## BEST COPY AVAILABLE

## "SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE INTEREST"

## Najor Findings\*

(Respondents with school-age children)

## Respondent Characteristics

- e Nime of the fourteen participants (64%) responded to the employee survey and evaluation form.
- Seven of the 9 respondents had school-age children.
- e forty-three percent of the respondents had only elementary grade school children while 14% had both elementary and senior high school children. Fourteen percent had children in junior high only and 29% in senior high only.
- e Twenty-nine percent of the respondents had only male children, 57% had only femile children, and 14% had both male and female children.
- All of the respondents had their children in an AISD school.
- e forty-three percent of the respondents had a spouse living at home.

## Seminar Time Arrangements

- e The two time arrangements under which more respondents said they would be willing to attend future seminars were:
- 1. Normal lunch period plus some company time (100%)
- 2. Normal lunch period (72%)

## Additional Topics of Interest

- e The additional seminar topics in which more respondents expressed interest were:
- 1. "Teaching Your Child Good Study Skills" (160%)
- 2. "Parent-Teacher Conferences: What Parents Need To Know" (85%)
- 3. "How To Balance Academics with Extracurricular Activities" (86%)
- 4. "Helping Your Child Succeed in Junior High School" (72%)
- 5. "Helping Your Child Succeed in Elementary School" (71%)
- 6. "Helping Your Child Succeed in High School (71%)
- 7. "Sex Education in The School: Why, When, and How" (71%)

<sup>\*</sup> This is a special summary report prepared by the Working Parents Project, Division of Family, School and Community Studies, Southwest Educational Development Laboratory. \*\*\* The company name

<sup>\*</sup> Responses from employees who do not have school-age children were not included in the oreliminary analyses.

"EDUCATIONAL REFORM - A LOOK AT HB 72"

#### EVALUATION FORM

#### Major Findings\*

(Respondents with school-age children)

#### Information

- e Eighty-six percent of the respondents indicated that the information was new to them.
- e All of the respondents indicated that the information was both interesting and valuable. (Eleven percent of the participants did not answer this item.)

#### Presenters

- e Ali of the respondents indicated that the presenters seemed knowledgeable about the issues discussed.
- e Eighty-five percent of the respondents indicated that the presenters communicated the infernation well. The remaining percent indicated that the quality of the communication was somewhat in between.

## Time

- Opinions from the respondents concerning the time allowed for presentation were mixed (28% indicated that the time was adequate, 43% indicated that it was not, and 29% indicated that it was somewhat in between).
- e Opinions concerning the time allowed for questions and discussion were also mixed (14% indicated that the time was adequate, 14% indicated that it was not, 57% indicated that it was somewhat in between, and 14% did not answer this item).

#### Handouts

e All of the respondents indicated that the handouts would be useful to them.

\* There were 5 possible ratings for items concerning the seminar. The ratings ranged from 1 (Definitely Not) to 5 (Definitely Yes). For reporting purposes, ratings 4 and 5 were grouped and treated as an overall "Yes," ratings 1 and 2 were grouped and treated as an overall "No," and rating 3 was kept the same and treated as a rating somewhat in between. Responses from employees who do not have school-age children were not included in the preliminary analyses.

## Seminar in General

 $\theta$  All of the respondents indicated that they would recommend the seminar to other marking parents.

## Benefits Obtained

. 74

- e The benefits which more respondents indicated they had obtained were:
  - 1. Answers to questions they had (100%)
- 2. Information about resources (71g)
- 3. Motivation to take some actions concerning their children's education (71%)

72

#### GENERAL COSERVATIONS

### Timing

 The scheduled time was not followed. The seminar had been scheduled for one hour; however, it lasted one hour and 35 minutes, with a 25 minute lunch break included. Also, the seminar started 20 minutes late.

### Room

 A meeting room was used. The room had a long table at the center, with some chairs around. Before the seminar started, some minor changes were made to meet the needs of the presenters and participants. Also, more chairs were added.

## **Participation**

- e Seventy-one percent of the participants asked questions and/or made comments.
- e Fourteen questions were asked.
- The questions addressed the following issues:
  - 1. Excused/unexcused absences
  - 2. Verification of absences
  - 3. Excess absences and class credit
  - 4. Makeup classwork missed when absent
  - 5. Limits on extracurricular activities each day
- 6. After school care in schools
- 7. Length of school day
- 8. Effect of extracurricular limits on agricultural activities
- 9. Eating off campus
- 10. Taking children out of class for field trips, etc.
- 11. Career development information for students
- 12. Parent notes for absences over 5
- 13. Medical/dental appointments that cause tardiness or absence
- 14. When is a student counted as absent from class/school
- 15. When students need to decide on graduation plans
- 16. Limits on athletic team practices

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGCESTIONS

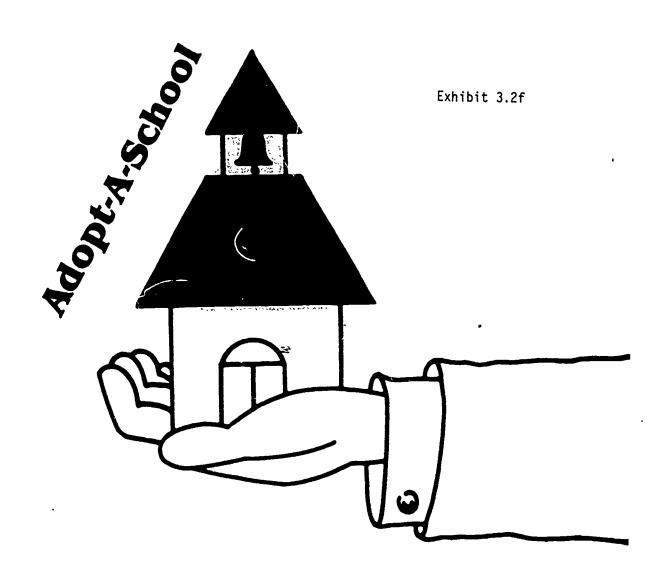
In general, the participants seemed interested in the topics discussed in the seminar. This interest was reflected in the number and the types of questions they asked and in the comments they made during the seminar. Also, the participants who answered the evaluation form seemed pleased with the seminar in general and with the outcomes. However, there were mixed feelings concerning the time allowed for presentation and for questions and discussion. This suggests that perhaps future seminars should be limited to just one specific topic, especially if the topic is one that may generate lots of questions and discussion. Furthermore, closer coordination and communication regarding seminar details and pre-seminar arrangements would be needed to help ensure that the seminar is conducted smoothly and effectively within the allocated time period. This coordination and communication is important due to the time constraints of both company and school district staff.

In light of the findings reported here, the following actions are suggested:

- Conduct a survey to determine the reasons why other employees did not attend the seminar and to determine their willingness to attend future ones ( nnn , MPP).
- Interview the \*\*\* contact person and the director to: (a) find out their opinions about the seminar that was offered, (b) "estimate" time, cost and effort involved, and (c) determine their willingness to sponsor future seminars (MPP).
- Survey/interview the presenters to: (a) find out their opinions about the seminer they offered, (b) "estimate" time and cost involved, and (c) determine their willingness to offer future seminars (MPP).
- Meet to discuss the findings and any other relevant issues that should be considered to continue these collaboration activities (AISD, \*\*\*\* MPP).



<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The company name



Brown Bag Luncheons

Date: November 5, 1985

Time: 11:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.

Place: Ninth Floor

Training Room

First City Centre

Please bring your lunch and join other First City employees to learn more about the new requirements and educational options for our children. The topic theme for today's seminar will be "Helping Children Succeed in the Secondary Schools."

Drinks will be furnished.



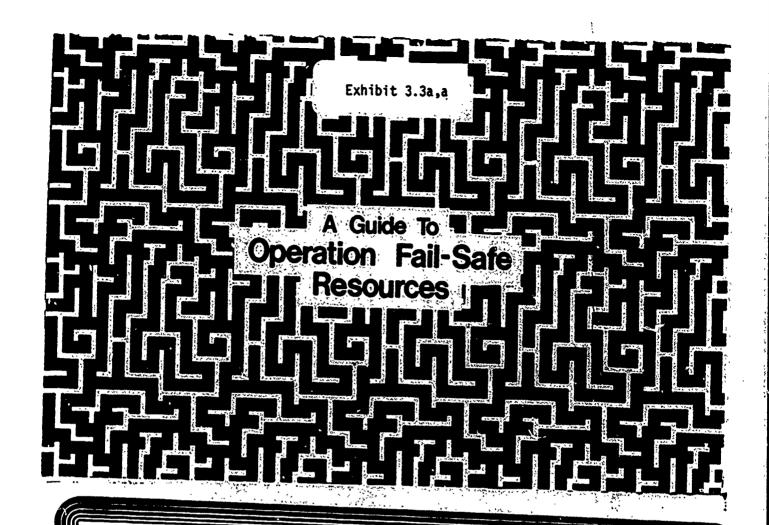
## Exhibit 3.3a

## POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR WORKPLACE SEMINARS

- 1. Understanding the Recent Texas Legislation: How It Affects Schools. Your Children and You
- 2. Helping Your Child Succeed in School
  - When and how to help with homework
  - Helping children develop good study habits
  - How your child can manage conflicts with classmates
  - How your child can manage conflicts with teachers and other school
  - Participation in extracurricular activities
  - Rewarding creativity
  - Teaching responsibility
  - Motivating your child
  - What to do if your child is having a problem in school
  - How to handle the child who doesn't want to go to school
- 3. Parenting the Elementary School-aged Child
  - Developing stages
  - Building self-esteem
  - some subtopics under No. 2 could be covered here
  - Discipline
- 4. Parenting Teenagers
  - Understanding developmental tasks
  - Discipline
  - Building self-esteem
- 5. Child Care: When, Where and What Kind?
  - How to know when your child is ready to be left alone
  - Skills your child needs when staying at home alone
  - Choosing the best type of child care arrangement for your child

  - Locating quality, affordable child care
     Preparing your child for taking care of him/herself and programs available to help
  - After-school and summer programs for school-aged children
- 6. Parent-Teacher Conferences: What Parents Need to Know
- 7. Summertime Programs Available for Your Child through AISD
- 8. Achievement Tests: Interpreting Your Child's Scores
- 9. Help Your Child Learn to Read Better
- 10. Choosing Courses for Junior and Senior High Students
- 11. Why Sex Education?





Family Achievement in Learning: Sharing Accountability For Education

A TITLE

# operation rail-eare

PROGRAM

PROGRAM

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

Exhibit 3.3e,b

## EL DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE HOUSTON

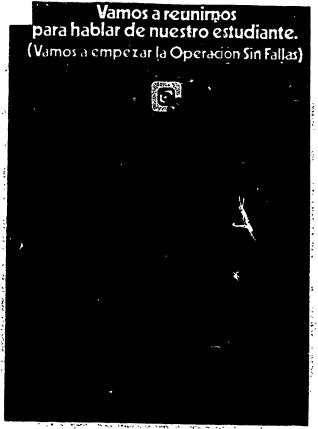
OPERACION SIN FALLAS

Dogs of Education

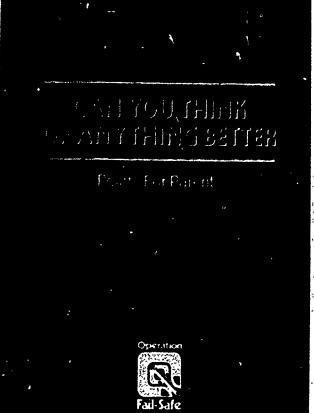
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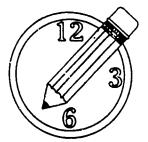
Resource Brochure

Nousion Independent School District

Special Programs and Information

for

Students in Secondary Schools Exhibit 3.3e,c
The Future is Theirs



A guide for parents in helping teens plan their future.

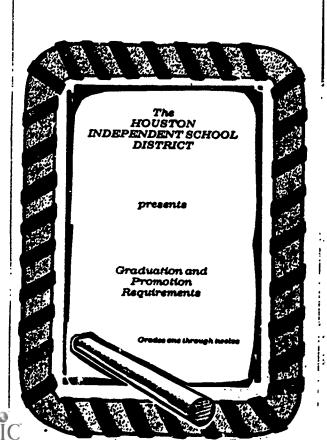


**Houston Independent School District** 

62.7900



**Houston Independent School District** 



Testing in the Secondary School



Houston Independent School District
17.9 tum Number 62.7630

Revised 9/1

## Your Home Is Your Child's First School



## BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Available from the international Reading Association for 50¢ each are eight small publications on parents and reading.

- No. 877 Why Read Aloud to Children? by Julie M.T. Chan
- No. 872 What Books and Records Should I Gat for My Preschooler? by Norma Rogers
- No. 870 What is Reading Readiness? by Norma Rogers
- No. 876 How Can I Halp My Child Gat Ready to Read? by Norma Rogers
- No. 875 How Can I Encourage My Primary-Grade Child to Read? by Molly Keyes Rensbury
- No. 874 How Can I Halp My Child Learn to Read English as a Second Language? Marcia Baghban (Also available in Spanish)
- No. 873 How Does My Child's Vision Affact His Reading? Donald W. Eberly
- No. 871 How Can I Gat My Teanager to Read? Rosemary Winebrenner

This brochure has been adapted from How Can I Encourage My Primary-Grade Child to Read? by Molly Kayes Ransbury, published by the International Reading Association and ERIC/CRIER.

International Reading Association 800 Barksdale Road P. O. Box 8139 Newark, Dalawara 19711 U.S.A.

This brochure may be purchased from International Reading Association in quantities of 100 at a cost of \$3.00 per 100, prepaid only. Individual copies are free.





#### AUSTIN INCEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Department of Management Information Office of Research and Evaluation

## GUIDANCE TESTING CALENDAR FOR 1985-86

DATE	TEST	GRADE(S)
GCTOBER, 1985		
12	Scelastic Aptitude Test (SAT) only	11-12
15-18	Differential Aptitude Tests (DAT)	10
. 19 &	Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test National Norit Scholastic Qualifying Test (PSAT/MMQT)	11
26	American College Testing Assessment (ACT)	12
MOYENSER - 1985		
2	Scholastic Aptitude and Achievement Tests (SAT-ACH)	11-12
11-22	General Interest Inventory	
DECEMBER - 1985		
. <b>7</b>	Scholastic Aptitude and Achievement Tests (SAT-ACH)	11-12
14	American College Testing Assassment (ACT)	12
JANUARY - 1966		
<b>25</b> .	Scholestic Aptitude and Achievement Tests (SAT-ACH)	11-12 .
FEBRUARY - 1986		
	American College Testing Assessment (ACT)	. 12
MARCH - 1986		
15	Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Only	11-12
10-14	Orleans-Hanna Algebra Prognosis Test	7
•		

## SUIDANCE TESTING CALSHDAR FOR 1985-86

DAT	-	. <u>TEST</u>	GRADE(S)
APRIL -		American College Testing Assessment (ACT)	12
MAY - 1	966 3	. Scholastic Aptitude and Achievement Tests (SAT-ACH)	11-12
MAY -19		Advanced Placement (AP) Exeminations	11-12
12-16 JUNE -		for college credit	•••
•	7	Scholastic Aptitude and Achievement Tests	11-12
1	4	American College Testing Assessment (ACT)	12

NOTE: General Interest Inventory for Grade 11 as requested.

08:TESTDATE/5/1-/85

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#### THE TEAMS EXAK

Exhibit 3.3e.f

- One of the most significant changes for this year's students (with the exception of seniors) will be the requirements that they pass an exit level exam in order to graduate from high school.
- Areas to be od are in math and English language arts (Reading and Ling)
- This year's seniors are not affected by an exit exam; they must pass our present minth grade competency requirements.
- On October 1 and 2, 1985, the test will be administered to every eleventh grade student for the first time. October 1 will be the date that the math portion is administered and October 2 will be the day of the English language arts portion.
- If a student fails this October exam by not passing both sections of the test, they will be able to take it again in the spring. The two sections will not be averaged together for a passing grade.
- A student must pass the entire exam in order to graduate in the Spring of 1987.
- If a student fails the spring exam, they may take it again next year in October of 1986 as a senior.
  - If a student fails again in October of 1986, they may take it again in the spring of 1987.
- Students who fail will not receive a diploma nor will they participate in graduation exercises. Scores will not be recorded officially on their transcript until they pass the exit exam.
- Whenever a student finally passes the exam, they will be given their diploma, regardless when their class graduated.
- Results of the October, 1985 test should be available in 4-6 weeks from the Texas PAucation Agency.
- "Second chance" exams will be given statewide on May 1 and May 2 of 1986 for this current school year for those students who failed.
- The state set the testing days and the test will be given statewide on the same days.

## Exhibit 3.3f,a

# SAMPLE AGENDA FOR LUNCH HOUR SEMINARS (time in percentages)

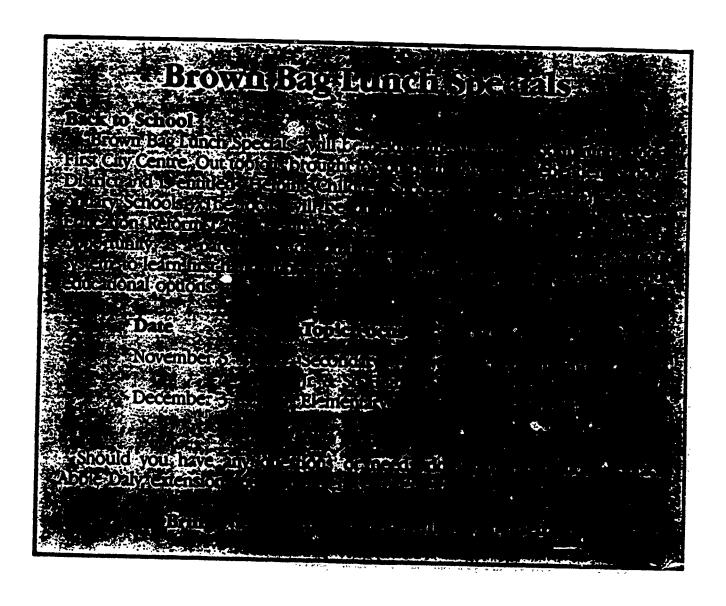
Time	Activity
( 5%)	Getting settled, seated, lunch bays/boxes delivered
( 2%)	Host's Greetings and Introduction of Presenter(s)
( 3%)	Presenter's Overview of ES/PIE and of today's topic
(60%)	Presentation of topic or topics
(20%)	Audience participation; questions and answers
( 5%)	Evaluation of Seminar and Wrap-up
( 5%)	Acknowledgements, announcements, survey of interest for future topics or activities.

## SOME TIPS FOR SEMINAR PRESENTERS

- o Arrive at least 15-20 minutes ahead of time to meet the liaison person or whomever will introduce you.
- O Check the room to make sure that any equipment needed is in working order and that you know how to operate it.
- o Communicate with person who will monitor the time.
- O Distribute a one-page agenda at the beginning of the session, so that the audience knows what to expect.
- O Limit the presentation to one specific topic and address only a few topic-related issues. Do not overload the presentation with too much information.
- Make sure that the contents of the presentation address immediate and practical needs of working parents.
- O Structure the presentation to allow audience participation, reactions, questions and answers, personal anecdotes, etc.
- o Keep the presentation within the available time.
- O Use body language to establish a close and casual relationship with the audience.
- 0 Use personal examples and anecdotes relevant to establishing your professional and personal credibility.
- o Handouts should be distributed at the appropriate time; if needed to follow your presentation, distribute them before. If they reinforce your presentation, or provide additional information about the subject, distribute them at the end, so that participants do not get distracted by reading them while you present.



# NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT (ENLARGED)



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Exhibit 4.2h

## PARENTS IN THE WORK PLACE PROJECT

IBM INFORMATION SEMINAR

August 29, 1985

AGENDA

GREETINGS/INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Lee Laws Director,

Intergovernment Relations

Austin ISD

NEW CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Timy Baranoff

Director,

Elementary Curriculum

Austin ISD

Mrs. Gloria Williams

Director,

Secondary Programs & Services

Austin ISD

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Mrs. Mary Miller

Director of Pupil Services

Round Rock ISD

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Jesús Chavez

Administrative Assistant Research and Development

Round Rock ISD

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPONSORS:

Southwest Educational Development Lab

Austin ISD Round Rock IS

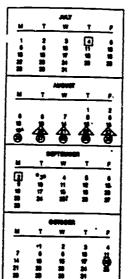


## **AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR 1985-86

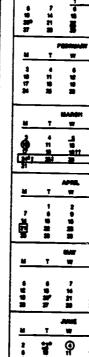
Annual St. St. St. St. America 27, 28, 28, 29 INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCKS Rept. 3 - Jun. 20 Jun. 27 - June 2 Sept. 3 - Out. 11 Out. 16 - New 37 Out. 2 - Jun. 39 Jun. 37 - Mar. 5 Mar. 5 - Apr. 36 Apr. 39 - Juno 3

#### STUDENT HOLIDAYS

#### **CONTRACT YEAR**



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## Exhibit 5.1b,a

#### SYMBOLS

- have done for testiment weather, or other res-is, will be blunden, black St. Treaden, blown St., otherwise days are determined by the Su-

## UT CALENDAFI

#### 1985-86 STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING/PREPARATION SCHEDULE

DATE	ELEMENTARY	JUNIOR HIGH	SENIOR HIGH
Monday August SE, 1865	Buperintendent's Convection  & Local Carrios Staff Development (NAS)  District-Wide Staff Development (PAS)	Superintendent's Commentees.  & Lovel Company Staff Superintender (ALIQ Florening and Propanytion (FIG	Superintendent's Commention  & Least Compus Staff Development (An Placeting and Proparation (PM)
Acceptary August 27, 1885	Districtional Compus Staff Development Planning Proposation (PM) Papil Registration	Charlet-Wide Staff Coveragement (All Day)	Closetot-Wido Staff Countenment (All Dogs
Modree.tay Neglect SE, 1865	Plansing Proporation (AIQ) Project 8687 (PAQ)	Planning/Proporation (ALQ Project BOST (PAQ	Planning/Proposition (AM) Project 905T (Ph.)
Duraday August 26, 1885	· Planning/Pusparation	Planning/Proposition	Plexing/Proposition
Priday Nagust St., 1885	Planning/Proposition	· Plansing/Proposation	Planning/Properation
Friday Detabar 18, 1966	Time Equivelency Staff Covelepment	Time Squirelensy Stell Development	Time Squirelensy Staff Development
Trumday January 23, 1886	PlanningProperation	Pleasing/Proposition	Planning/Proporution
716ay 1004usty SA, 1886	Time Equivalency Staff Development	True Squirelensy Staff Development	Time Squivalency Staff Dovelopment
landay lareh 18, 1235	Tures Exemination of Current Administrators and Teachers (TECAT)	Times Evanination of Current Administration and Teathers (TECHT)	Times Seamtnetten of Current Administrators and Teachers (TSCAT)
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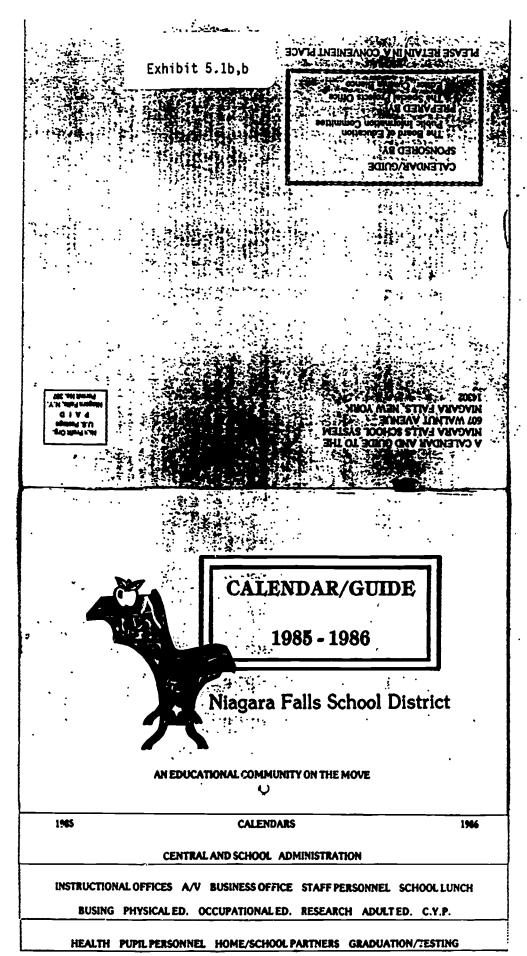
#### General Guidelines

- There will be no required after-school stelf development sessions or mostings for elementary personnel jother than regular faculty meetings) during the Ferent-hasher conferencing periods of October 17-31, December 5-18, January 39-February 13, March 19-April 2, May 1-14.
- ind District level secologs or mostings (both required and optional
- appendance.

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## **BEST COPY AVAILABLE**







## **Round Rock Independent School District** 1985-86 School Calendar

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#### District Information

Mgh Baheala	ADDRESSES	GRADES	PROJECTED ENROLLMENT	PRINCIPALS	TELEPHONE
Round Rock High	300 Lake Creek Drive, Round Reck 70001	<b>9-12</b>	2267	George Bulnoch	258-2504
Westwood High	12406 Mellour Meadour Drive, Austin 78756	0-12	2620	Norman Sansom	250-1061
Middle Baheels					
Conyon Viole Middle	8466 Spicewood Springs Rd., Austin 78788	6-6	1003	Den Delten	
C.D. Fulles Middle	300 West Anderson Avenue, Round Rock, 78864		901	Gene States	
Chishelm Trell Middle	800 Oshridge, Round Rock 70061	•	945	Pat Hughes	Lt.
Neel Gristers Middle	10005 Schoolhouse Lone, Austin 76750		1100	Jeff Rhedes	×
	1000 0000000000000000000000000000000000	••	1100		Exh
<b>Elementary Schools</b>					Ξ.
Anderson Mild	10510 Selt Salt Hellow, Austin 70750	K-S	746		5
Bertimen	400 West Anderson Avenue, Round Rock 78864			Pat Poterson	≅.
			406	Leonard Klely	
Brushy Creek	3000 Blanebridge, Round Rock 70061	K-S	700	Connie Parker	ct
Deep Wood	786 St. Williams, Round Rock 78861	K-S	776	Jon Find	
Forest Horth	1341e Breedmeede, Austin 78729	K-5	561	Ceretyn Head	ဟ
Laurel Mountain	10111 D.K. Rensh Read, Austin 79750	K-S	413	Elecce Mellalt	•
Morth Oaks	11164 Oak View Drive, Austin 78756	K-S	664	Kethy Caramay	
Pand Springs	7825 Eithern Mountain Trail, Austin 18729	K-S	544	Royce Swelm	<b>5</b>
Purple Segé	11000 El Salido Parkway, August 78750	K-5	646	Linds Herrington	v.
Reberteen	1415 Beyland, Round Rock 70004	K S	1076	Sandi Bardan	'n
Spicewood	11881 Olean, Austin 78756	K-S	670	Jerry Den Landers	
Voigt	1201 Cushing Drive, Round Rock 78664	K-S	516	Recemery Cone	•
Wells Branch	14000 Marrittown Drive, Austra 78726	K-S	546	Rey Bethie	
Statutet Total		K-12	17,421		

## 

Superintendent	
Deputy Superintendent	
Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Administration	
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction	
Assistant Conscintandent	

#### Board of Education

Occar Perez, Pres	ident
Nancy Ohlendorf, Vice President	Carol Gatlord
Karl Henner, Secretary	Bill McPulifie
Nelde Click	Richard Shackellord

The Board of Trustees of the Round Rock Independent School District meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 30 p.m. in the school administration building at 1311 Round Rock. Avenue, Round Rock. Texas The public is invited to attend

#### **School Clocings**

During inclement weather or other emergencies, the following stations will carry information concerning school closings. KVET Radio, KGTN Radio, KLBJ Radio, KOKE Radio, Channel 8 (RRISD Television). KTBC Television, KTVV Televison and KVUE Television.

#### **Medication Policy**

Written permission from a parent or legal guardian is required prior to the school administering prescription or non-pre-scription medication. Prescription drugs must be in the original container with complete pharmacy letter.

Transportation service is available for children who live two miles or more from the echool which they would normally attend Students who attend more than one school to participate in vocational programs receive transportation between achoose during school hours. Special education students are eligible for transportation services when need is setablished. The district does not provide transportation for atudents not meeting these qualifications for information concerning transportation call 255-2304

Students wow to the district must present birth certificate and immunite. tion record at time of registration

Texas law requires all students to be immunized for certain discover According to school policy children may be exempted from the requirement if persons guest done in terms for extraction to end physician that one or more of the immunications would endanger the child's life or, submit & expend statement from their religious athlesion that immunitations are contrary to their religious beliefs

immunitations ust be required for the fellowing diseases

DPT (d-ptherio/pertue-s/tetenus)-a series of three shots, plus booster

after age 4
Palle three desse of oral, Phila becoler after age 4
Rubesto (hard mession/12 day)-one immunization after age 1
Rubesto (German mession)-one immunization (not required past age

All new extreme and returnees must be immunized for show proof thereof) before the pupil can regular for school. Any student who does not complete the runnunization requirements will not be permitted to

For information about free immunization chinics, please call the Williamson County Fischin Department in Georgetown at 863-8686, or the Travia County He with Department at 474-8681.

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M breaty - VVIII - VV/III 2nd Security -- V7V55 - 1/20/65 PARENT CENTER COORDINATORS:

Johni Paroz .

Guenlynne Pike

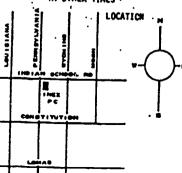
CONSULTANT:

Or. Roger Kroth

HOURS

8:00 - 4:30 MONDAY - FRIDAY

AND BY APPOINTMENT



THE PARENT CENTER IS LOCATED AT INEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE MORTHEAST WING OF THE BUILDING.

1700 Penmsylvania, H.E. Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110 (505) 292-0101 the Parent —Center—



A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL



ALBUQUERQU PUBLIC SCHOOLS

292-0101

"Parents have to be necognized as..educators, the true experts on their children; and professional people...have to learn to be consultants to parents"

Nichotas Hobbs

The Parent Center is sponsored by the Special Education Department of the Albuquerque Public Schools to strengthen the relationship between home and school. It is built on the philosophy that the growth, development, and school success of children are enhanced when parents and teachers work together effectively. Education is truly a partnership between home and school.

#### - MATERIALS AVAILABLE -

- "Directory of Selected Community Services for Exceptional Children and Their Families" A quick reference for school personnel in locating assistance for the families with whom they work.
- "Tutor Directory"
   A list to assist
   those who receive
   requests for tutors
   from parents of
   students who are
   experiencing problems
   in school.
- Handouts for Parents and Teachers
- Tip sheets for parents on topics designed to promote school progress and child development.

THE PARENT CENTER SERVES
PARENTS, TEACHERS & COMMUNITY -

- Parent Seminars
   A series of workshops geared to enhance parenting skills
- Hini-Conference for Parents A Saturday conference designed to strengthen parenting skills and home/school relationships
- Industry Outreach
   Parenting skills workshops
   conducted for employees at
   their work site
- Consultation
  Information and support to
  school personnel and parents
  on specific issues relating
  to children
- Media
  Radio talks and television
  panel discussions developed
  to provide home access to
  parent information
- Relocation
   A service designed to assist
   parents of exceptional
   children who are moving to
   another locale
- Parent/Professional Library Materials available for checkout on topics such as parenting skills, home/school relations, and specific exceptionalities

Exhibit 5.2d,a

## WORK & FAMILY SEMINARS MAKE SENSE FOR TODAY'S WORKFORCE

- The festest growing segment 
   ## the
   Minnesots worldorce is mothers of children under 18.
- Both parents work in over 50% of Minnesote femilies with children under 18.
- A recent survey of over 900 Minnesons businesses shows that over 60% of the responders either have or are con-sidering workets seminers on belancing work and femily responsibilities.
- work and Family Seminars help alleviar arviety about perents and family issued that can sap energy which otherwise first could go into productive work activities. Work and Family Seminars help alle

## What are Work & Family Seminars?

Work and Family Seminers are cours offered at the company veriplace. Through the seminars employees learn side and insights which help them belence work and family responsibilities.

- The seminers help...
   reduce job ansisty associated with work and family concerns
- promote à supportive atmosph
- he a sense of loyalty toward the company.

Participants report that they are better able to manage family responsibilities in ways that do not conflict with work.

Exhibit 5.2d,b

## Seminars To Fit Your Company's Needs

Andrews is available for assessing employee intervits and concern able for assessing employee interests and concerns.

#### BALANCING WORK AND FAMELY

- management of threes caused by viori-landly cardicts discover management of time at home

  - Communication and negotiation with the state of the state

- chil an child care

5. 2

#### PAREITS AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- byhavior guidance stree evelopmental stages of the infant pre-schooler
- preschooler school-ge school-ge school-ge sensege hebring with discipline concerns hebring chidren through crisis and the school-ge sense of responsibility as sense of responsibility and sense of responsibility and sense sense of responsibility and sense
- New ALT AND WELLINESS

  Turnition for a Sisteme
  discrete and firess
  prendial concerns the working pregnant
  employee
  health, selety and first sid for children
  consumer health care options

Often the seminers are referred as Brown bug. Earth programs. They can also be acheduled at other times during the day or evening. Seminers generally consist of three to eight sessions held abweeley intervals.

Contact Vocasthreit Education new for further information about how your company can arrange a Work & Ferrilly Seminer.

## **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CAN HELP**

## WORK & **FAMILY SEMINARS**

## 1000mg 1000mg 1000mg

#### A Proven Record.

Vocational Education has an established Vocational coucasion has an essistance record of successfully providing educational services. Lett year alone over \$4,000 adults participated in vocational parent and family education programs throughout Minnesets. Seminars have been offered in both community and worksite settings.

#### Qualified Instructors

All instructors are certified by the Minnesota Department of Education as adult vocational educators with expertise in paranting, family life and child development.

Vocational education seminars provide quality education at reasonable rates.

#### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Educational programs designed to fit your
- Assessment of employees to determine interests and concerns

Consultant Services

Technical Assistance and resource referred

## CONTACT **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION** NOW

#### FOR INFORMATION & REFERRAL

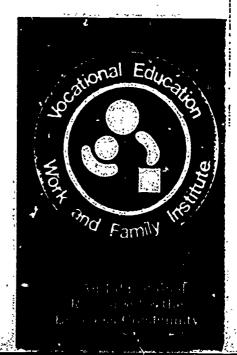
The Vocational Education Work & Family Institute is an organization helping the business community obtain quality aducational services on work and family leause. It is a consortium of Avea Vocational Technical Institutes (AVTIA), through the Minnesota State Department of Education. For more information about work and family serviness of the Proceed to serve and AVTI serviness. and a referral to your local AVII contact:



Mary Both, Project Director Vecational Education Work & Family Institute 524 Capital Square 530 Coder Street BL Paul MN 55101 612/2964516

#### FOR DIRECT SERVICE IN YOUR AREA.

There are 23 Area Vocational Technical Institutes (AVTIs) throughout Minnesets providing training to employees. To arrange seminars for your employees, contact the Adult Education Department at the AVTI nearest you.

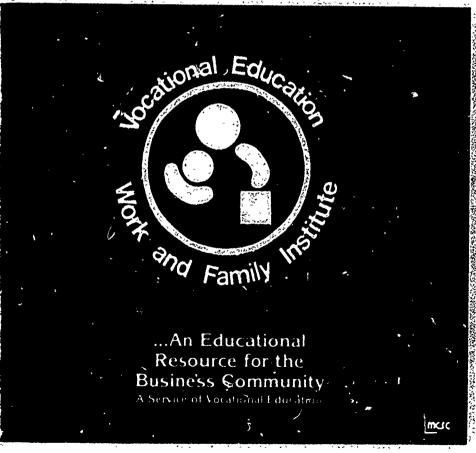


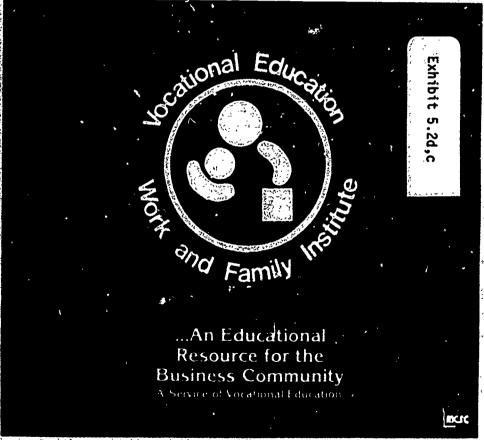


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# THE IMPACT OF WORKING WOMEN ON BUSINESS

# WORK AND FAMILY SEMINARS AT THE WORKSITE







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#### Exhibit 5.4a



## FOR EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

OUR children hold the key to the continuity and improvement of our society and of our own community. They will have to carry forth not only our values and traditions, but will also be the future producers and consumers of our goods and services, and will have the task of preserving and improving the environment to enhance the quality of life for all of us.

SECOND only to the importance of the family unit are the schools, which we entrust with the major responsibility for the education of our children. The schools, in order to fulfill such an important role, need not only the best qualified teachers and administrators, adequate physical facilities and resources, but more importantly, they need the support and involvement of the parents and the community at large.

The <u>President/Chairman of the Board</u> understands that the <u>Company's</u> contribution to the community goes beyond the services it provides to its clients. As a unified group of men and women, the <u>Company's</u> employees are themselves an important part of this community. They contribute their time and energies to the various aspects of the life of the community, and, in particular, to the schools that their children attend.

It is in recognition of the important role that each parent/employee plays in supporting our schools that the <u>Company or President/Board of</u>.

<u>Directors/CEO</u> resolve(s):

- 1. To reaffirm our support for the efforts that the <u>City</u> area schools are undertaking to improve the quality of the education that our children receive.
- 2. To reaffirm our support for the efforts that our employees currently make to be involved in the education of their children after their regular work hours.



- 3. To urge employees to make use of the various leave mechanisms available to them to attend to the school needs of their children during regular working hours.
- (optional) 3a. To direct the <u>Personnel Director/Human Resources</u>

  <u>Manager</u> to study the feasibility of establishing a special form of leave for purposes of parent involvement in children's education, not to exceed <u>number</u> hours per school year.
- 4. To urge managers and supervisors to exercise maximum flexibility to accommodate reasonable leave requests for parental involvement in school.
- 5. To facilitate the internal distribution and posting of information related to school activities, special events, and programs provided by the schools or by the parents themselves.
- 6. To make available facilities and support for the organization and scheduling of education-related meetings and seminars during work hours to be conducted by school personnel or other appropriate community resources.
- 7. To publicize our corporate support for our schools and thus encourage other institutions in the community to follow our lead.



## Houston Independent School District

3830 RICHMOND AVENUE ● HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027 AREA CODE (713) 622-6011



Dear Employer:

In the fall of 1978, the Houston Independent School District initiated a program aimed at raising the educational achievement levels of Houston Independent School District students. The program - Operation Fail-Safe - is geared to increasing the involvement of parents in schools and the instructional program of their children. Evidence indicating a correlation between student achievement and parent involvement is so positive that the Houston Independent School District feels the continuation of Operation Fail-Safe is vital.

All parents of the Houston Independent School District students are invited to attend individual parent/teacher conferences. In these meetings, parents review their child's performance records and discuss the kinds of supplemental learning materials they can use at home to help increase their child's learning. The most recent test score information available for district students indicates the Houston Independent School District students are improving.

For the fourth consecutive year, the average academic achievement of students in grades 1-6 in the Houston Independent School District meets or exceeds the national norm. At the secondary level, the District has shown the greatest improvement in test scores since the secondary testing program was implemented. These results confirm the continuation of improved basic skills performance of students in the Houston School District. The continued performance at or above grade level at the elementary grades and improvement at all secondary grades are indicative of the stability and quality of the educational programs offered in the Houston Independent School District.

To continue this trend, we are asking employers of parents with students in the district to allow parents to take an hour to two hours off from their jobs on September 28 and/or October 10, this fall to meet with teachers and counselors again. In the spring, the Operation Fail-Safe day will be on February 29. With your cooperation, we would like to see 100 percent of the parents participating in Operation Fail-Safe. You can provide that extra boost the program needs to see it reach this new goal this year.

Our special thanks for working with us on Operation Fail-Safe!

With best personal regards, I am,

Yery truly yours.

Billy R. Meagan

General Superintendent

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BRR:phd #154-27

## Exhibit E2.3b

## OBSERVATION FORM

Employer/Business Name:			
Seminar Title:			
Date:			
Time Scheduled: From			
Name of Presenter(s):			
Describe type of room used:			
Was the room ready?			_
Starting time:	(on time	late	)
Were people eating during the p	presentation?		
Presenter(s), topic covered, ar	nd time used:	From	until
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
etc.			



questions asked:				
1				
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2				 
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ime ended		<del></del>		
omments:				
			<del></del>	



## Exhibit E2.4c

Seminar	name:	

## EVALUATION FORM

PART	I - THE SEMINAR (Please circle one rating):					
		Definite Not	ly		Det	finitel Yes
1.	The information provided was new to me	1	2	3	4	5
2.	The information provided was interesting to me.	1	2	3	4	5
3.	The information provided was valuable to me as a parent	1	2	3	4	5
4.	The amount of time allowed for the presentation was adequate	1	2	3	4	5
5.	The amount of time allowed for questions and discussion was adequate	1	2	3	4	5
6.	The presenter(s) seemed knowledgeable about the issues discussed	1	2	3	4	5
7.	The presenter(s) communicated the information well	1	2	3	4	5
8.	I would recommend this seminar to other working parents	1	2	3	4	5
9.	The handouts provided will be useful to me	1	2	3	4	5
PART	II - BENEFITS OBTAINED (please check one or more	<b>e</b> )			YES	
1.	I got answers to questions that I had	•••••	•••	••••		
2.	I got information about resources	• • • • • • • •	••••	••••		_
3.	I got information that will help in making some decisions about my children's education					
4.	I got motivated to take some actions concerning education	my child	ren'	s ••••		
5.	Other (please specify)					
						_



#### VI. RESOURCES

## A. <u>Organizations/Associations/Programs/Projects</u>

Career and Family Center. <u>Catalyst</u>. 14 East 60th Street, New York, N.Y. 10020.

Center for Social Organization of Schools. Johns Hopkins University, 3505 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Maryland 21218.

Education Committee, Austin Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 1967, Austin, Texas 78767.

Employer-Sponsored Parent Education Project, P. O. Box 44064, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804.

Family Study Center, College of Home Economics, Home Economics West, Room 114, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074.

The Family Matters Project, Cornell University. Ithaca New York 14850.

Governor's Office of Community Leadership, Sam Houston Building, Suite 105, Austin, Texas 78711

The Home and School Institute, Inc., Special Projects Office, 1201, 16th Street, NW, Suite 228, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Institute for Responsive Education, 605 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.

Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, P. O. Box 80258, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898.

National Committee for Citizens in Education, Suite 410, Wild Lake Village Green, Columbia, Missouri 21044.

The Parent Center, Albuquerque Public Schools, 1700 Pennsylvania, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

Program on Families and Work. American Association of University Women, 2401 Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037 (Project Director: Judith S. Ball)

Resources for Parents at Work, 722 Westview Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119.

Dorothy Rich Associates (ARA): A program on family, school, and employer relationships, 3301 Newark Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

The Work and Family Life Study (WFLS), Bank Street College of Education, 610 East 60th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.



## B. <u>Newsletters/Bulletins/Articles/Reports</u>

"Business and Industry - Partners in Education." American Association of School Administrators, 1801 N. Moore Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209 (1984).

Career and Family Bulletin. Publication from the Catalyst Career and Family Center. Gatalyst. 14 East 60th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

"Citizens and the Schools - Partners in Education." American Association of School Administrators, 1801 N. Hoore Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209 (1984).

Community Leadership. Publication from the Governor's Office of Community Leadership. Office of the Governor, Governor's Office of Community Leadership, P. O. Box 12428, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

"Encouraging Employer Support to Working Parents: Community Strategies for Change." Dana Friedman. Center for Public Advocacy Research, 12 West 37th Street, New York, N.Y. 10018

"Families and Employment." In <u>Oklahoma Families</u>, published by the Family Study Center, College of Home Economics, 114 Home Economics West, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Oklahoma 74078.

"Families and Work: Traditions and Transitions." Judith S. Ball and Mary Ann Krickus. In <u>Graduate Women</u>, published by the American Association of University Women, 2401 Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037. March/April 1982, Vol. 76, Num. 2.

Oklahoma Families. Published by the Family Study Center, College of Home Economics, 114 Home Economics West, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078.

"The Partnership Concept: A Cooperative Approach to School-Based Child Care." Fairfax County Office for Children, 10396 Democracy Lane, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. January 1982.

The Texas Volunteer. Publication from the Governor's Office of Community Leadership. Office of the Governor, Governor's Office of Community Leadership, P. O. Box 12428, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.



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- Broken homes. Hearings before the Senate Sub-Committee on Family and Human Services, of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Part 1, March 22 & 24; Part 2, September 22 & October 1, 1983.
- Business and child care handbook. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Business and Childcare Project, Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association.
- Community solutions for child care: Report of a conference. Women's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, August 1979.
- Corporate financial assistance for child care. By Dana Friedman. The Conference Board Research Bulletin No. 177, Work and Family Information Center, New York, NY, 1985.
- Corporations and families: Changing practices and perspectives. By Helen Axel. Conference Board Report No. 868, New York, NY, 1985.
- Corporations and the family in the 1980's. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Human Resources Network, 1982.
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  Ways to Improve Schools and Education Project (WISE) Annual Report, by
  Al King. Austin, Texas: Southwest Educational Development Laboratory,
  December 1983.
- Employed parents and their children: A data book. Washington, D.C.: Children's Defense Fund, 1983.
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  Women's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Women's Bureau, Pamphlet 23, revised August 1982.
- Encouraging employer support to working parents: Community strategies for change. By Dana Friedman. New York: Working Parents Project, Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1983.
- Equal employment opportunity for women: U. S. Policies. Women's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Women's Bureau, 1982.
- Families and child care: Improving the options. Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, September 1984.
- Families at work: Strengths and strains. The General Mills American Family Report, 1980-81, conducted by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. Minneapolis, MN: General Mills, Inc., 1981.



- Families in crisis: The private sector response. Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families Rearing held in Washington, D.C., July 12, 1983.
- Government initiatives to encourage employer supported child care. By Friedman. Dana E. New York: The Center for Public Advocacy research, July 1983.
- Helping working parents: Child care options for businesses. Office of the Governor, State of Morth Carolina, June 1981.
- Improving American education: Roles for parents. Hearing before the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, House of Representatives, Ninety-Eighth Congress, Second Session. Hearing held in Washington, DC on June 7, 1984.
- Increasing supports for two-parent and single parent working families.

  Proceedings from an Invited Conference, September 28-29, 1983, by Reanato Espinoza and Nancy Naron. Austin, Texas: Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, December 1983.
- Innovative workplaces of the San Francisco Bay Area. By Closson, Michael, et al. Palo Alto, California: New Ways to Work, 1978.
- New Management Initiatives for Working Parents. Reports from an April 1981 Conference, edited by Clifford Baden and Dana E. Friedman. Boston, MA: Office of Continuing Education, Wheelock College, 1981.
- Programs to strengthen families. By Yale Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy and the Family Resource Coalition. Yale University and Family Resource Coalition, October 1983.
- School-age child care: A policy report. By Seligson, Michelle, et al. Wellesley, Mass.: School Age Childcare Project, Wellesley College Center for Research on Women, December 1983.
- School-age child care: An action manual. By Baden, Ruth Kramer, et al. Boston, Mass.: Auburn House Publishing Co., 1982.
- Supporting a family: Providing the basics. Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, Hearing held in Washington, D.C., July 18, 1983.
- The State of Families, 1984-85. New York, NY: Family Service America, 1984.
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Annual Report, by Renato Espinoza and Nancy Naron. Austin, Texas:
Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, December 1983.

